

**SPINALL'S
ENAMEL**
IS USED BY
HER MAJESTY,
THE QUEEN OF SWEDEN,
H.M. THE EMPRESS OF GERMANY,
And for the Decorations at Sandringham for
H.M. THE PRINCE OF WALES;
ALSO BY
H.M. GOVERNMENT.
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SPINALL'S ENAMEL WORKS,
LONDON.

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

LONDON, SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 1890.

MILFORD LANE } STRAND.—No. 455.

THIRD EDITION.
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE.
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)
THE PRUSSIAN WAR MINISTER.
BERLIN, June 28.—The Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung has received trustworthy confirmation of the fact that General du Verne had asked leave to resign, and adds that General-lieutenant Wittich, commander of the Imperial Headquarters, is mentioned as his probable successor.

MAJOR VON WISSMANN.

BERLIN, June 28.—In view of the reception given to Major von Wissmann this morning, the hall of the Hotel Kaiserhof will splendidly decorated. The Hall of Wissmann will be among those present.

THE NATIONAL ELECTION BILL.
NEW YORK, June 28.—The Northern Democratic members of Congress have prepared a joint protest against the National Election Bill, and have issued invitations for a mass meeting to oppose the measure.

ITALIAN CONFIDENTIAL IN AN ARMENIAN CHURCH.

VIENNA, June 27.—Intelligence from Constantinople states that despatches have reached that city from Erzeroum, reporting an Armenian church at Erzeroum to be used as a secret storehouse for arms and ammunition, and a party of soldiers to make a march which the service was proceeding. During the march the Armenians among the worshippers were driven upon and killed by the Turkish officer, this being followed by a tumult in which six soldiers fired upon the Armenians.

The latter rejoined with revolvers, and in the struggle four Armenians and eight Turks were killed, and a number of others wounded. It was reported that the Mussulman inhabitants subsequently made a demonstration, in the course of which stones were thrown at the Turkish consulate. Despatches from Turkish sources upon the above affair state that it was not the author of the but the Mussulman people who forced their way into the church and searched it, owing to a report that the Armenians of Van had attempted to blow up Government establishment with dynamite.

(DAHLER'S TELEGRAM.)

AN AMBITIOUS SUITOR.

BERLIN, June 27.—A Berlin citizen, who is believed to be insane, has been arrested on a charge of having committed suicide.

GERMANY AND HELGOLAND.

BERLIN, June 28.—Since the cessation of hostilities to Germany, seven Berlin artists have been at work upon a colossal painting of Helgoland, and the picture is now being exhibited at Castan's Panopticon. The enterprising artist has been well rewarded for thousands of hours daily visiting the exhibition.

(DAHLER'S TELEGRAM.)

THE PENNSYLVANIA DISASTER.

DUNNELL (Pennsylvania), June 28.—All hopes of rescuing the imprisoned miners are now extinguished. A furious fire has broken out, and the mine has been in flames all night. Two hours before the fire was actually seen, smoke was rolled upwards from the pit, preceded by a mighty roar, filling the grottoes in one of cruel despair.

CHOLERA IN SPAIN.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAM.)

PARIS, June 28.—Prince Goritschakoff, the Russian ambassador, on arriving at Hendaye on the frontier, from Madrid, protested strongly against being obliged to submit to the disinfestation process which has been ordered in consequence of the prevalence of cholera in Valencia. The directors of the sanitary post, however, took no notice of the Minister's objections, and he, as well as those with him, had to undergo the process.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES.

THE COLONISTS ARMING.

Serious news comes from Newfoundland in the shape of a letter from the special correspondent of the New York Tribune, which was despatched on St. John's on the 19th inst. The correspondent says:—"It cannot be denied that the operations of the French have had cruel results to the Newfoundlanders. Living along the French shore are about 12,000 colonists. The French have no territorial rights there, and do not possess a single habitation except their lobster factories, and the houses in which they live, these being, as their Consul admits, in violation of the treaties. The colonists have recently armed themselves with an extra supply of the finest American rifles. They are famous shots, and have always possessed a small arsenal of good weapons. During last year orders have come into St. John's for as many as from fifty to a hundred rifles at a time; and although some merchants, unwilling to aid the obvious purpose of these supplies, have refused to furnish them, it is quite certain that the colonists have obtained what they wanted, and are now prepared to resent any infringement of what they consider their rights. This they are likely to do at any time, but soon they may be counted upon to go further. The entire colony, with one voice maintains that the French must go. Unless some set of aggression be attempted by the French they may wait at least until the present Government has had a chance to show what it can do; but if it fail, or if the Colonial Office in London resort to its usual policy of delay and temporisation, a collision on the French shore is almost certain. The people are ready and willing. They do not believe that if the worst came to the worst England would leave them to be destroyed by the French gunboats."

ANOTHER CRICKET FATALITY.

Lake Crofton Bridge, aged 15 years, the son of James Bridge, of Paradise-street, Bury, was playing at cricket on Thursday evening, when a ball struck him on the side of the head with such force as to cause his death before a medical man could attend. The ball struck the deceased near the ear.

CORONATION DAY.

The anniversary of the Queen's coronation, which took place on June 28th, 1888, was observed on Saturday in London in the customary manner. From an early hour and at intervals during the morning the bells of many of the churches rang out merry peals. The drum-major doing duty with the detachment of the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards, which mounted the "Queen's guard" and the other public duties for the day at the West-end, wore his State uniform, and the band of the regiment played a selection of music in the court-yard of St. James's Palace during the ceremony of mounting and changing the guard. The subaltern on duty carried the Queen's colours from Wellington Barracks to the guard-house at St. James's in place of the regimental colours usually taken, and the officer of the 1st battalion Grenadiers, who was relieved from duty afterwards, conveyed the colours to Chelsea Barracks. A royal salute was fired at St. James's Park by a detachment of the Royal Horse Artillery from St. John's Wood, and at the Tower of London by the men of the Coast Brigade of Royal Artillery. The day was observed as a holiday at the various Government stores and workshops. The anniversary was celebrated at Windsor by the ringing of bells and the firing of royal salutes.

ARRIVAL OF THE EMPRESS
FREDERICK.

The Empress Frederick and the Princesses Victoria and Margaret of Prussia arrived at Port Victoria Pier, in the Medway, at seven o'clock on Saturday morning, from the Continent, on board the royal yacht Victoria and Albert. The empress afterwards proceeded to Windsor.

CRITICAL STATE OF LORD
CARNARVON.

Lord Carnarvon was on Saturday reported to be sinking. On Friday he passed a quiet and painless day, but at night was in an extremely critical condition.

THE NEW SHERIFFS.

Mr. W. Farmer and Mr. Augustus Harris were on Friday elected sheriffs of the City of London for the year from Michaelmas next.

THE POLICE APPOINTMENTS.

Captain Knolly has been appointed a chief constable of Metropolitan Police in place of Mr. Howard, who has been promoted to the office of assistant commissioner.

A CAPTAIN DROWNED.

The Folkestone fisherman have towed into the harbour the yacht Myrtle, of Dover, whose crew report that their craft was struck by a heavy sea while coming up Channel, and the captain was washed overboard and drowned.

ACCIDENT TO LOVERS.

A serious accident occurred on Saturday at the Scottish Conservative Club, Edinburgh. Robert Square and Marion Learmonth, two servants, who were known to be sweethearts, were discovered lying on the floor of the hydraulic lift, having fallen a depth of 76 feet. Square died in hospital, and little hope is entertained of Learmonth's recovery.

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The ball struck the deceased near the ear.

THE DEATH OF MRS. HALL.
Laermann and De Ponthieu before the Magistrate.

At the Westminster Police Court on Friday, before Mr. D'Eyncourt, the hearing was resumed of the charges against Albert Laermann, a Belgian, who practised as a doctor, and Lieutenant Raoul de Vismes de Ponthieu, of the Bombay Staff Corps, in connection with the death of Mrs. Edward Marshall Hall, aged 29, wife of a barrister, through alleged improper operations for a felonious purpose. Mr. C. Mathews prosecuted for the Treasury; Mr. George Lewis defended Mr. de Ponthieu, who surrendered to his bail; and Mr. Bernard Abraham appeared for Laermann, who seemed more dejected and anxious than at the previous hearings, an impression having been made to him that the coroner's jury who investigated the death of Mrs. Hall returned a verdict of wilful murder against him. The court was crowded. Georgina Knight deposed that she was employed by Dr. Jack as housekeeper, at a friend's home in Chelsea; formerly she was a maid to Mrs. Hall at Duke's Place, and later in May she was engaged again by Dr. Laermann, and again by Dr. Phillips. Some days afterwards a telegram came from Laermann, and later the same day about five o'clock in the afternoon, two ladies came—Mr. Mathews said the telegram had already been proved. It was the message of the 15th of May, sent in the name of Mrs. Grandt, but proved to be forged. Dr. Phillips with another operation on her. Defendant said Mrs. Hall had separated from her husband some time, and she had told him she was pregnant. Laermann, he said she had told him that she had taken drugs from some woman, and they having had no effect, this woman had taken her to a doctor, who had twice operated on her, but without success. He went on to say that Mrs. Hall told him that she would take further steps, and that he had strongly urged her not to do so, but to let matters take their course. Further, he said that he knew nothing at all of the first two visits—he would swear it. Mr. Mathews: Did you say anything to the witness? He said that he told him when great pain that he had taken from her visit to a man. The witness: He said that she told him when great pain that he attended a man who gave her morphine, and that he had insisted on calling in Dr. Phillips. He further asked whether it would be possible to obtain a statement from the patient, as it might put him in a serious position if the dead. Witness said the lady was too ill to make any statement. Next morning, May 20th, he was sent for to Duke-street, and found that the poor lady was dead. —Mr. Lewis: Mr. de Ponthieu agreed that Mrs. Hall had undergone a necessary operation two years ago. The further hearing was adjourned.

THE VISITS OF THE DECEASED.

The witness, further examined, went on to say that she had seen Laermann in his room, staying about a quarter of an hour. On Monday the 19th of May, that being the date to the best of her belief, another telegram came for Laermann, and the same two ladies, whom she had since identified as Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Grandt, again came to the house. They were shown upstairs, Laermann went to them, and they remained about twenty minutes. On the Friday following, the 23rd of May, the ladies came again, and she gave them a message from Laermann, who was out. For the fourth time they came on the following day, and they remained with Laermann in his room. During their stay he came downstairs for champagne and glasses. —Mr. Mathews pressed the witness as to whether she heard any music, and she said she did not. The only noise she heard was Mrs. Grandt singing. The witness fetched a Hanson for the ladies. Mrs. Grandt giving her 5s. Next day, Sunday, the 25th, Mrs. Grandt came by herself in the afternoon, and the doctor was not at home. She requested that Laermann, as soon as he arrived, would go to Berners-street (where deceased was). That same Sunday night, about 11 o'clock, a cabman came and brought a message. There was a memorandum on the envelope in pencil—"If the doctor is not at home send for him at once." In consequence of what the cabman said she opened the letter and read the contents. She then went to Victoria, and sent a telegram to Laermann at The Grove, Hammersmith, in the following terms:—"Please go to Mrs. Grandt immediately. Danger." About eleven o'clock that night the doctor came home, and she asked him if he had received the telegram. He said, "No." He went into his surgery, and soon afterwards went out. She saw no more of him that night. On the Tuesday following he was arrested on a charge of forgery. A day or two after his arrest a gentleman came to the doctor's house and asked him if he had received the telegram. He said, "Yes." He went into his surgery, and soon afterwards went out. She saw no more of him that night. On the Tuesday following he was arrested on a charge of forgery. A day or two after his arrest a gentleman came to the doctor's house and asked him if he had received the telegram. He said, "Yes." He went into his surgery, and soon afterwards went out. She saw no more of him that night. On the Tuesday following he was arrested on a charge of forgery. A day or two after his arrest a gentleman came to the doctor's house and asked him if he had received the telegram. He said, "Yes." He went into his surgery, and soon afterwards went out. She saw no more of him that night. On the Tuesday following he was arrested on a charge of forgery. A day or two after his arrest a gentleman came to the doctor's house and asked him if he had received the telegram. He said, "Yes." He went into his surgery, and soon afterwards went out. She saw no more of him that night. On the Tuesday following he was arrested on a charge of forgery. A day or two after his arrest a gentleman came to the doctor's house and asked him if he had received the telegram. He said, "Yes." He went into his surgery, and soon afterwards went out. She saw no more of him that night. On the Tuesday following he was arrested on a charge of forgery. A day or two after his arrest a gentleman came to the doctor's house and asked him if he had received the telegram. He said, "Yes." He went into his surgery, and soon afterwards went out. She saw no more of him that night. On the Tuesday following he was arrested on a charge of forgery. A day or two after his arrest a gentleman came to the doctor's house and asked him if he had received the telegram. He said, "Yes." He went into his surgery,

[ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.]

MARGARET BYNG.

By F. C. PHILIPS

AUTHOR OF "AS IN A LOOKING-GLASS",
AND

EMORY FENDALL.

VOL. II.

CHAPTER VI.

MARGARET REMAINS AT ST. MARIN.
A few days later Margaret received a letter from her husband's lawyers Messrs. Martin, Huckstall, Jebb, Hindmarsh, and Martin, telling her in brief terms the circumstances under which he had died. Curiously enough, they were much the same as those that Margaret had described to Miss Corry, in answer to that lady's inquiry, at the time that she only had her imagination to draw upon. The letter was as follows:—

"Dear Madam,—
"We are not aware whether the sad news of your husband's decease has reached you from any other quarter, but, be that as it may, it is clearly our painful duty to acquaint you with the fact. We should have written before, but we have only just obtained your address, and that with great difficulty. The particulars relating to the late Mr. Byng's decease are very brief. A neglected chill turned to pleurisy, and the medical man, who stated he had not been summoned in time, gave but little hope from the first of your husband's recovery. This gentleman was right, as Mr. Byng died in three days from the time that he had been called in. We may mention that the late Mr. Byng was living in lodgings in Chelsea, without his wife, in order to avoid his creditors. From these facts, and from your own knowledge of Mr. Byng's affairs, you will naturally understand that he died insolvent."

"Under these unhappy circumstances it will be, of course, quite unnecessary for you to come to England, for there are no business arrangements to be made. We will, however, communicate without delay with Mr. Byng's sector, and ascertain from him whether he intends to continue the allowance to you that he formerly made to his son. You shall hear from us again upon the receipt of his reply."

"We are, dear madam,

"Truly yours,
"MARTIN, HUCKSTALL, JEBB, HIND-
MARSH, and MARTIN."

Margaret smiled as she read the letter.

"It is dreadful to be totally unprovided for," she said to herself. "How fortunate that I was so lucky at Monte Carlo!"

She knew, of course, that her husband had nothing to leave, but still she hoped that his father might act generously and continue the allowance. In this hope, however, she was doomed to disappointment, for the old gentleman declined to do anything of the kind. When Colonel Heathcote returned from England, he informed his daughter that, after a stormy interview with Byng's sector, the gentleman had positively refused to make any provision for his daughter-in-law. He says that he does not know you, and that he never sanctioned the marriage. He considers it is more reasonable that I should support you than that I should."

"He must be a sweet old thing," laughed Margaret. "No, I don't know him, and I don't wish to know him. We are heartily agreed upon that point. And I suppose you could not even write a hundred words about him?"

"No, a hundred francs," answered her father. "He said the little money he had to spare he should devote to paying your husband's debts, and that must be just before he was generous."

"What a ridiculous sentiment," she said.

"I wish he would pay mine," observed the old man.

"Oh, never mind your debts," she said impatiently. "They will be paid some day. I dare say I shall make a rich marriage, and then we shall be thoroughly affluent again."

"I hope you may, with all my heart," said her father. "I only trust you won't go falling in love with another paper."

"You need not alarm yourself, papa. I have tasted the sweets of adversity, and I do not think I like them. No, she added, decidedly. "I shall go to Paris and look out for a rich husband. We shall be happy yet, papa."

"You will have to do a year's mourning first," remarked the colonel.

"That will depend on my own feelings," she said. "I do not mean to tie myself down by any conventional usages. When I really cease to mourn it will be ridiculous on my part to go about in rags and a widow's cap."

"You appear to have got over your grief already," said Colonel Heathcote.

"No, I have not," she said. "I regret him sincerely, and, if I could, I would willingly bring him back to life. His death has been a severe blow to me, and I mourn for him truly, but I am not going to do so eternally. Life cannot be spent in vain regrets, and when I get a chance of bettering myself, as the servants say, I shall accept it."

"A penniless widow is not a very marriageable article," observed her father.

"But I am not penniless, I have got plenty of money to go on with, and I mean to spend it in searching for my future afflity."

"I believe you have no heart whatever," she said, turning from her with a look of annoyance.

"I don't know why you say so," she answered. "I made a wretched marriage because I had too much heart, and the moment I had a few pounds to spare I came to see my only surviving parent. Surely that argues a gentle, loving disposition."

"When do you intend to go to Paris?" he asked abruptly. Truth to tell, he was beginning to get tired of his daughter's society, and was quite ready to subside into his old jolly life of having no greater excitement than his two-penny halfpenny whist.

"I shall not go yet," she answered calmly. "I shall do a month's mourning first. I can conceive no better place for a person seeking quiet and seclusion than St. Marin."

The colonel looked dismayed. Another month of this sort of thing!

Margaret knew that he took pleasure in being constantly with her, but she had not yet realised how desperately in love he was, and that he was longing for her.

"You always looked overjoyed at me to make her his wife. She liked him. I kept you waiting. And now tell me, I will be kinder to me, and kinder to your—"

"my decision," she said. "Have you any objection to my remaining here? None whatever, but I think you will find it very dull."

"I should find it dull anywhere for the first few weeks. Of course I must eschew all idea of gaiety for the present."

Then the subject dropped, and Colonel Heathcote knew that he must look forward to the pleasure of having his daughter with him for the next four weeks.

Margaret certainly bore her grief with outward equanimity, and yet there were moments when, sitting by herself, she would think over her misspent life, and hot tears would course down her cheeks, and she would remain for hours wrapped in her grief. But in public, or when speaking to her father, she was always hard and reckless, caring little for appearances, and apparently anxious that no one should imagine that she had a soft spot in her heart. She hated emotion, and was ashamed of herself when she had given way to her feelings. She knew that in her strange nature, made up as it was, like all other natures, of good and bad, that the bad largely predominated, and she would say to herself, "I suppose I am a sort of family Hyde and Jekyll, only in me there is more Hyde than Jekyll!"

She made but few efforts to conquer the hardness of her nature, and, although she felt it was wickedness, she was powerless to overcome it. Her only affection was for her father, and even that was of a spasmodic kind. Sometimes she would feel very tenderly towards him and make all sorts of plans for his future comfort, and then the feeling would pass away after one of their little discussions, and she would almost decide to leave St. Marin at once and declare to herself that she did not want ever to see him again.

In the meantime, the weeks passed quickly by and she still remained. She had a strange reluctance to go into the world again and facing the life of an adventure for the second time. St. Marin was dull, and indeed entirely bereft of anything that could be called enjoyment, and yet she felt that it was home. She made up her mind that it was better to put up with her father's selfishness and occasional bad temper than to recommend that hard life which now awaited her a life of scheming and plotting to obtain a rich husband. She was fully aware that she would meet with many disappointments, and that it would be very difficult for her to struggle into any sort of society. And so she remained idly at St. Marin, seeing no one but the Corrys, and having her father's society every day at luncheon and dinner.

CHAPTER VII.

CAPTAIN CORRY FALLS IN LOVE.

Captain Corry had not followed his sister's advice, for it must be confessed he had fallen desperately in love with Mrs. Byng, and it is scarcely necessary to say that this fact was fully appreciated by the lady herself.

She saw him nearly every day, and each time she did so she realized that he was becoming more and more hopelessly her slave. His brother and sister also noticed it, and rallied him on the subject, but, as is usual in such cases, it had no effect whatever upon him, and he candidly told them that he loved her. It was no use to disguise the fact—it was so perfectly plain—and, truth to tell, it was making him wretched.

Margaret had so recently become a widow that he could not, with any decency, tell her of his love, and even had he been able to do so, he felt certain that she would refuse him. He had but his captain's pay and a miserable two hundred pounds a year, and this was not a tempting future to offer such a dazzlingly beautiful person as Margaret Byng. Besides, she gave him no sort of encouragement, and although she always appeared pleased to see him, he fancied, with natural modesty, that it was probably more on his sister's account than on his own.

He, poor fellow, notwithstanding his wretchedness, had never passed such an entrancing time. Compared with anybody he had seen or known in India, Mrs. Byng was a goddess, and the few weeks he had spent with his cousin in England had, from the nature of things, failed to afford him any real enjoyment.

They often talked about the murderer, and Tom was never weary of saying how much he should like to earn the £2,000 reward. Margaret was always guarded when this subject was broached, and rarely seemed at her ease, and yet, curiously enough, she would often provoke the discussion and lead up to the subject.

Captain Corry had announced that he was bound to return to Derbyshire when he left St. Marin, and that he had promised his cousin to do all that he could while he was in France with the view of bringing his husband's murderer to justice. Mrs. Downton evidently entertained the idea that Allan Poe was right. That the difficulties of tracking out a crime are increased in exact proportion to the apparent simplicity of the circumstances. Every detail adds to the chance of finding the true clue."

"Well, if he is right," said Captain Corry, "in the present case the details are so scanty that the chances of success seem extremely small; but I do not think that upon that account the task ought to be abandoned as hopeless, and that in so far as the police ever allow themselves to be led by ordinary motives, they will upon this occasion take into account the peculiarly atrocious and dastardly character of the crime, and allow human indignation to stimulate for once in a way their professional zeal."

This was a long speech for Captain Corry, but he evidently meant what he said.

"Of course you must go," said Margaret meditatively. "But perhaps you will come back; your leave has still some time to run, has it not?"

"Yes; my leave does not expire till nearly April. But if I do return, perhaps you will have left?"

"My movements are extremely uncertain," she said coldly. "I came here, acting on the spur of the moment, and I shall probably leave in the same way; I never make any plans before-hand."

"Then I shall never see you again," he said despondently.

"That is not at all certain. The world is very small, and one is always coming across people unexpectedly."

"You are not likely to go to India?"

"No, I hope not. At least, I mean I have no friends there," she added, rather lamely. "But you will not spend the whole of your life in India. Surely, you will come home again soon."

"I shall have no desire to do so," he said.

"Then you cannot complain of your fate if it gives you what you wish."

"It is never likely to do that. I know that my ambition is wild and ridiculous, and that it is never likely to succeed."

"You must not be so down-hearted," she said kindly. "There will surely be pleasant surprises in store for you."

"Do you think that there is any chance of your remaining here much longer?" he asked.

"I really cannot say. I am waiting for letters from England before I can make any settled plans. In the meantime, I like this place because it is quiet and because I had a great affection for your sister, but, of course, any day I may have to leave."

"I envy my sister," he said, with a faint smile.

"She is so peculiar and original," said Mrs. Byng, "one can almost help liking her."

Captain Corry kept his eyes fixed upon her as they were talking, and this caused Margaret to feel very uncomfortable. She knew perfectly well that he was searching in her face for a look of sympathy, for something that might give him a gleam of hope. At last he rose, and after taking a few steps towards her he screwed up his courage to tell her that he would wait a few minutes while she would join him. She lived in a sun-drenched corner of something coming to light respecting her sojourn.

Nice that every fresh visit caused her uneasiness. She thought Frederick Corry might possibly have some bad news for her, and that she had better know the worst at once. So she hastily put on a morning wrapper and then she entered the sitting-room with a bright smile.

"I have lived so long out of the world that I have forgotten all its usages," she said merrily. "I suppose it is now the fashion to pay these early visits?"

"I am afraid I am very early," he said, speaking with an effort, "but I have something more to say—something I have longed to say for the last few weeks, and, what is more, I cannot leave without saying it."

Then Margaret knew that she was in for it, but she made one desperate effort to avert the declaration, and said:

"I think I can guess your meaning, Captain Corry. And if I am right you will have my sincere sympathy, but, as far as I can see, I have no ambition to witness any scenes of lamentation and despair."

"I shall not go yet," she said. "I am calm. I shall do a month's mourning first. I can conceive no better place for a person seeking quiet and seclusion than St. Marin."

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Margaret knew that he took pleasure in being constantly with her, but she had not yet realised how desperately in love he was, and that he was longing for her.

"You always looked overjoyed at me to make her his wife. She liked him. I kept you waiting. And now tell me, I will be kinder to me, and kinder to your—"

because she felt that he was a thoroughly just and upright man, and he was a refreshing change after all the misguided people with whom she had been accustomed to mix; but still, after all, that was merely admiration of his character, which she fervently hoped would never develop into love. Love was a luxury she could not afford, and she made a mental resolution that if she found it absolutely indispensable to her existence, she would seek it after, and not before, marriage. Such was her cool calculating way of reasoning, and yet poor Frederick Corry thought her the most charming of her sex! What children men are in the hands of a clever

self, to leave unsaid what is in your mind. You know that I love you," he said to her.

No, no. Don't say it. It is wrong, and, moreover, it is perfectly useless;

"I know that my love is quite hopeless, and that I should be pretentious if I even tried to dream that you could possibly return it, but I may never see you again, and you would only tell me that—in time perhaps—when I am in a better position, you might think more of me."

"Then you have come to wish me good-bye," said Margaret. And there was no longer any gladness in her voice.

"Yes. I hate saying good-bye," he said sheepishly, "especially to people I like."

"But are you really obliged to go? Of what possible use can you be to the police?"

"My cousin seems to wish it, and as I have really nothing to do now, I feel that I ought not to refuse her."

"Perhaps you will gain the two thousand pounds reward," she said with a ghastly attempt at humour.

"I am not thinking of that," he answered. "I would much rather remain here. Indeed, I would sacrifice anything to do so, but I know that it would be unwise on my part, and that I am only wasting my time."

Margaret knew perfectly well what he meant, and she inwardly hoped that his dejection was not a foreunner of a declaration; at all cost she wished to avoid it.

"I am not thinking of that," he said. "I am not thinking of that," he said again. "I know my means are small, but, at least, I can offer you the pure devotion and a life-long love."

"It is very wrong on my part to listen to you," said Margaret. "It is unknd of you to persist when you see how you pain me. I have no intention of re-marrying at present."

"Then you do not care for me," she said. "I like you very much, and I like all your family, but, as you say yourself, you have but small means, and I am in the same condition, a marriage between us would be a folly that is not to be thought of. Leave St. Marin, Captain Corry, and forget all about me."

"Your brother and sister will miss you very much," she said, trying to keep on safe topic.

"Yes. I am afraid they are the only people in St. Marin who will."

"He is evidently determined to let me know the state of his feelings," thought Margaret, "and, although it will be very unpleasant to have to tell him, I suppose there is no help for it."

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OUR OMNIBUS.

THE M.P.

After the ruling of the Speaker all possibility of carrying the contentious clauses of the Licensing Bill was at an end, and it only now remains to settle how the money which has, by the Budget Act, been assigned to be paid over to the local taxation account. On this nice point of procedure is raised, and it is thought possible that the Government may have to bring in another bill to revoke the grant and apply it to other purposes. The alternative is that they may allow the £300,000 proposed to be applied for the purchase of licenses to remain in the hands of the county councils and be applied to the relief of the rates. Either course involves difficulties. In the first case, the new bill would be subject to the same amount of discussion as if it were a perfectly novel subject; and, in the second case, there would be a general scramble on the part of the Opposition to get hold of the money for some of the objects which they profess now to regard as highly important, but which have only assumed prominence because they afforded convenient points on which to embarrass the Government. The circumstances show how careful a Ministry ought to be not to allow its plans to be "amended" by their opponents. If they had foreseen the effect of an apparently harmless alteration proposed by Mr. Healy, the present imbroglio would not have arisen.

At the same time, if the fruits of the present session are scanty, and the Government have to sacrifice some of their best measures, it ought not altogether to be counted a matter of blame to the party leaders. There seems a disposition to regard it in this light, and members talk in the lobby as if the whole of the failure were due to the Government. This is very unfair. It is true there has been an overloading of the ships and a misapplication as to the strength of the winds and waves of Opposition, but the obstruction with which they have met has been a veritable cyclone, against which it was nearly hopeless to contend. Those who grumble forget that the best days of the session were sacrificed by prolonged debates on the address, extending over three weeks, by a fortnight's discussion on the Farnell Commission, and by repeated inroads on Parliamentary time by means of obstructive motions for adjournment, dilatory reductions of votes in supply, multiplied instructions to committees, and that the whole armoury of weapons of obstruction has been ransacked to prevent the transaction of business. Nothing short of the constant and relentless use of the closure could have prevented the waste of time which has occurred, and this was an expedient to which the Ministry were loth to resort except in the last necessity.

Mr. Caine's resignation would have had a more spontaneous look about it had it been made known before, and not after. He had been engaged in a prolonged conference with Mr. Schindhorst and Mr. T. P. O'Connor, the object of which, it cannot be doubted, was to make his calling and election sure as far as the Gladstonian managers could assist that object. The result of the conference may be seen in an article in the *Daily News* of Wednesday, in which Mr. Caine is given absolution for all his former heresies, and is accepted as a probable convert to Home Rule. It is interesting to observe how, on occasion, the Gladstonian party are anxious to throw Home Rule into the background, and bring forward any other subject which for the moment they think will bring them votes. As it was at the St. Pancras election, when the Cleveland-street case was the main headache, so it is now, when we are told that the only test question is that of compensation—that the opinions of the Gladstonian candidates on Home Rule or any other subject, are matters of no consequence. This may be profound strategy, but it is uncomely like dishonesty. Mr. Wainwright, who fought a plucky contest at Burnley in 1885, has entered the field as the Unionist candidate, and though it is impossible to predict the result in a contest where the issues have been so much confused, the Unionists have in him a worthy and able representative.

Private members have had a bad time of it this year, and few of their legislative battalions have come to maturity, but there is one measure which will alone redeem their credit. I refer to the Directors' Liability Bill introduced by Mr. Warrington. Seldom has there been seen in the House so genuine a determination to put down an abuse as this bill has given rise to. If it passes in anything like its present shape, the profits of the shady company promoters who trades on the names of his titled dupes will speedily go down to zero, and the days of the guinea-pig director will soon be numbered. It is well for the credit of Parliament that something should be done to check the growing evil, by which the names of many members of both Houses have already been dragged in the mire. The resolution of feeling exhibited, and the evident determination to leave the City sharks no loopholes of escape are the healthiest symptoms of the change in Parliamentary ethics on this matter.

OLD IZAAK.

The Thames Fisheries Protection Committee having adopted the petition prepared by Mr. C. H. Cook of the Henley Association, to the Corporation urging that body to acquire for the use of the public those Thames fisheries which can be shown to belong to private persons. I hope an early opportunity will be taken of presenting it. A better impression would, undoubtedly, be created if this petition could be presented at the same time as that on behalf of London angling clubs, but I suppose this is out of the question, as the delegations appointed to the Foresters' Hall meeting have not as yet received any intimation even of the intention to prepare a petition. Whoever has charge of the matter evidently does not believe in taking time by the fore-liner.

While on this subject, I may mention that the editor of the *Fishing Gazette* has given the anglers a chance of making themselves acquainted with the legal aspect of the subject v. Andrew's case by publishing the statements of claim and defence, with the reply to the latter document on behalf of the plaintiff. I am not aware whether Mr. Abinger, the counsellor engaged for the defendant, has any fishing questions or not, but Mrs. Smith has certainly captured a leading specialist in Mr. Stuart A. Moore, as that gentleman is the author of the standard legal hand-book on the subject. I am informed by Mr. Wade of a subcommittee of ten shillings from the Howick Brothers towards the defence fund.

A correspondent informs me that the inhabitants of Surbiton have been complaining of the sand water which is daily, from 7.0 a.m. to 6 p.m., pumped from the filter beds of the waterworks into the old sewer, which greatly discolors the water. This, however, proves a great attraction to fish, the locality is consequently swarming with bream and barbel, some fine specimens of which have been taken, the latest on Sunday last, when a visitor, fishing with Jeal, of

Surbiton, took away six fine bream, the largest weighing 5lb.

A large number of London anglers were last Sunday on the war-path, or, rather, the towing-path; but good sport was not the order of the day, though I have heard of decent takes in some quarters. Mr. Cane, the secretary of the Seymour Brothers, informs me that his members were out, Mr. J. Petrie catching over 6lb. of roach and dace, while Mr. C. Smith won a prize for the best specimen roach. This fish was taken at Kingston, and turned the scale at 1lb. 1oz.

The members of the Globe Angling Society, of Finsbury Park, had a fair show of fish, over 17lb. being weighed in, including a fine trout, scaling 4lb. 8oz., taken by Mr. Coborn, and a nice perch of 1lb. 7oz. caught by Mr. Ellis. The trout, I understand, is to be set up for the club-room. Mr. C. Fell, of the Bermondsey Brothers, also had a nice take of bream, weighing over 10lb. from the Medway.

Although rather late in the year for such a function, I am asked to announce that the annual supper of the Alma Angling Society will take place on Tuesday, July 8th, at the Essex Head, Essex-street, Strand. This, though a young, is a very promising society, which has commenced well, and as that sterling angler, Mr. T. Crumpton, will occupy the chair, I have no doubt plenty of support will be on hand, and a most enjoyable evening spent. The members of this club won two prizes, presented by Mr. Pailes, on Sunday, between Kingston and Hampton Court Bridges, when the winners were Mr. H. Brette and Mr. G. Oakley.

Reports from the Thames say that since the opening of the coarse fishing season the fishermen have been fairly well employed, and there has been a goodly muster of anglers on the banks. In roach and dace fishing the results have been of an ordinary character. The principal sport has been amongst the barbel, and at Peartree Hook Mr. Reid and friend, with Charles Hone of Staines, got 30lb. weight; and on the following day, with the same fisherman, Mr. Taylor and friend got eight fish. At Weybridge, Mr. Harris, fishing with Herbert Curr, in one day caught 30lb. weight of barbel and a small trout, which was returned; and another day, with the same fisherman, had three barbel weighing 11lb., for a half brace of perch, and two trout; one of the latter being a small one, was not back again. A brace of jack weighing 8lb. have been caught at Teddington, under the pilotage of B. Stevens. At Kingston, John Johnson has taken a jack of 7lb., three others of 4lb. each, one of 3lb., and three smaller ones, which were put back again. The bank anglers have been getting some good specimen fish—a barbel of 8lb. at Teddington, a chub of 4lb., and a jack of 5lb. at Sunbury.

From the Lea I learn sport has been fair, the water has been in first-rate order and of a very nice colour. Roach and dace have been feeding freely, and some capital baskets have been made. At the Ferry Boat, Tottenham, some nice lots of dace have been taken with the fly, while some good takes of roach, dace, and chub have been made at the Ordinance and Millstream fisheries, Sewardstone. The Good Intent Angling Society will, I am informed, commence the season by fishing a pegged-down match at Burnt Mill to-day (Sunday). This club has a most valuable list of prizes for the ensuing season.

A fishing contemporary commands to the notice of the committee who are managing the forthcoming tournament that the novel contest said to be about to take place at Bangs Pool, in which a salmon fisherman backs himself to land a man from the water with salmon rod, line, leader, and fly. Not exactly bring him to gaff, but to present him in a condition to be gaffed (probably in the neck) after his fruitless struggles to escape. The conditions are that the fisherman shall stand on the shore and use ordinary salmon tackle, the line not to exceed 100 yards in length; the swimmer is to have a strap buckled about his chest, the fly to be hooked in a ring at the back. If the swimmer breaks the line, leader, or hook, he wins; if the fisherman plays the swimmer to exhaustion he wins. This is just one of those silly exhibitions that are neither calculated to advance the love of sport, or, indeed, serve any useful purpose; and, although my contemporary says that for a few shillings many a good river-side "pro" would undertake to play the salmon, I trust we may not have such a foolish contest at the tournament.

PIPER PAN.

Covent Garden Theatre has seldom presented a more prosperous aspect than on Monday last, when the grand spectacular opera, "Le Prophète," was welcomed by an audience that filled every seat and every inch of standing room. I could not but admire the patience of those genuine music lovers who stood in the slips during four hours, and I remembered with sympathy those happy evenings when I was glad to find standing room in the gallery of Her Majesty's Theatre before the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, was in existence.

Those happy days when Grisi and Mario were in their prime can never be forgotten; nor shall I ever forget the later days, when "Le Prophète" was produced, with Mario as Jean of Leyden, and Madame Viardot-Garcia as the false prophet's mother, Fidès. She was a great actress, but her voice was not so sympathetic as that of Mille. Richard, who on Monday last achieved a great and legitimate success in the rôle of Fidès, and whose acting was more spontaneous and sympathetic than that of her illustrious predecessor.

Mario's impersonation of the false prophet was more natural and impressive than that of M. Jean de Reszke, and his glorious voice and finished art lent greater charms to his performance. But—next to Mario—there has been no representative of Jean of Leyden—not even my lamented friend, Gayarre—who has so completely realized the character as M. Jean de Reszke, who sang splendidly, and acted in Act I. with the requisite simplicity, and in the succeeding acts with dignity and emotional power.

In the drinking song, at the end of the opera, De Reszke's voice was as vigorous as ever, and he won a legitimate triumph. I wonder that no one has pointed out the fact that Meyerbeer has in this instance been a plagiarist of Mozart. Let any one sing or play the first four bars of Jean's bacchanalian song slowly, and he will find the melody identical with that of Mozart's "La ci darem la mano," in his "Il Don Giovanni."

Mr. Vert has managed the Richter Concerts skilfully all through the current season, and I rejoice to find that he has recognised the propriety of including vocal music in the programmes of these concerts. At the sixth concert, on Monday last, Mdlles. Fullunger, Anna Williams, and Little, and—best of all—Mr. Edward Lloyd, sang selections from Wagner's operas—better adapted to stage than to concert performances—and Mr. Lloyd sang the "Preislied" from "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg" splendidly.

I have no wish to depreciate the admirable singing of M. Jean de Reszke, but I feel bound to express my opinion that his interpretation of the beautiful "Prize song" is surpassed by that

of Mr. Lloyd, whose voice is of pure tenor quality, while that of M. de Reszke is of baritone quality, with an upward extension. Both are accomplished artists, but on the principle "Honour to whom honour is due," the palm should be given in this instance to our gifted fellow-countryman.

At this concert an addition was made to the Richter repertory, Liszt's—so-called "symphony" to Dante's "Divina Commedia," for orchestra, soprano solo (Mdlle. Fullunger), and chorus of female voices. The work was admirably executed, but afforded a further demonstration of Liszt's incapacity as an orchestral composer, and I am glad that it was received so coldly that it is not likely to be soon repeated at these concerts.

Mr. Ganz, on Monday last, gave an excellent concert at Dudley Hall, by permission of the Countess of Dudley, and was assisted by many of our best artists. The chief success was that of Mdlle. Zelie de Lusson, who won the only encore, and when called on to repeat "O luce di quest anima," sang Bizet's "Habanera," from his "Carmen," so charmingly that efforts were made to obtain its repetition.

An apology was made for the absence of Mr. Sims Reeves, who was disabled by "hay fever." This announcement was received with derision by the audience, but I should like to know which of them would like to sing in public while suffering from the complaint which necessitated the reluctant absence of the great English tenor?

Music is largely represented at the Savage Club, but I remember when some seventeen years ago, there was but one musician on the list of members. I was present at a committee meeting when a distinguished musician, who now occupies a high position in America, was proposed for election. A second-rate novelist opposed the election, on the ground that the club was intended for literary men and "artists." A member of the committee indignantly asked if music was not one of the earliest and most esteemed of arts? A violent discussion ensued, and was cut short by the president, dear old Andrew Halliday, who said, "It's only one cussed fiddler more; let him come in" and the "cussed fiddler" (who happened to be a famous organist) was elected.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

A touching story about a cat comes to me from a correspondent at Peckham, who vouches for its truth. When lately coming back from Australia in a sailing ship, he had among his fellow passengers a tabby, which gave birth to four kittens. Three of the latter were cast into the deep at once, and as the fourth developed fits it shortly met with the same fate. Great was the distress of the poor mother; day after day and night after night she searched everywhere for her lost children, even denying herself food in the extremity of her woe. At last, despairing of finding them in the ship, she took a header into the briny, evidently convinced that, since they were not on board, they must have gone to sea on their own hooks. She was never seen again.

A Newcastle paper prints an exciting account of an otter-hunt which took place the other day on the River Coquet, the dogs employed being a local pack of otter hounds with attendant terriers. Time after time was the game animal brought to bay in the water, but always contrived to escape. After a time it reached a long stretch of deep water where the chances were rather more in its favour. But the pack followed up closely and the poor hunted animal, apparently tired out, sought refuge under the roots of a tree, which overhung the bank. The terriers were then put to drive it out, but they knew more than they bargained for. Mr. Otter mauled them terribly one after another. After that, having regained its wind, it took to the deep water again, and eventually got away, after being closely hunted for five and a half hours. Never did any animal deserve to retain its life.

"Sparrow" tells a story similar to one that appeared in this column a short time ago. A young sparrow was found on a plot of building ground, and was carried about fifty yards to a house where it was caged and placed on a window-sill outside at the back. It sat an hour an old bird flew to the cage, and fed the young one through the wire. It has continued its visits ever since, coming dozens of times a day. The instinct which prompts the mother-bird to thus discover her offspring when removed to some distance is very wonderful, and everyone must admire the fondness which leads her to feed her young even when away from home.

T. H. H. speaks on the subject of sparrows ejecting martins from their nests, and states that last summer he witnessed an occurrence of this sort on his own house. The sparrows, being very careless nest-builders themselves, are evidently much attracted by the well-cemented and carefully-constructed habitations of the martins, and as the morals of sparrows always seem to be very loose they try to appropriate the more comfortable nests. I quite agree with T. H. H. in not allowing this, and I think it only fair that in such cases the sparrows in their turn should be ejected by human beings.

Sir Edward Bradford, the new commissioner of police, is one of the very few sportsmen who have survived a tigerine embrace. Even when the wounds of the victim are not fatal, the shock to the nervous system almost invariably kills. It follows, therefore, that Sir Edward must have iron nerves, as is further proved by his consummate coolness in lying still while the infuriated tigress was chewing his arm. Had he struggled or shrieked, she would have assuredly gripped his throat; but, believing him to be dead, she thought she might so well take a light meal before dragging away the remainder to her lair.

It would be a right good thing were owners of raccoons to set their faces sternly against the savage use of whip and spur by jockeys. These appliances may be necessary in some cases to get the best speed out of sluggish horses, but their unmerciful use is wholly indefensible under any circumstances. Who has not seen jockeys flogging and spurring like incarnate demons when it was palpable that the horses they rode were doing their best? It is not uncommon for a rider to lose his temper as well as his head when another horse begins to slip past him at a critical juncture, and then the fidal descends, and the spurrs are driven home with passionate violence. Some humane owners forbid the use of both, believing that while they spoil a willing horse, they do little permanent good to a steven. And it is very certain that many a jockey has also had his horsemanship greatly marred by falling into a habit of employing torture.

Another illustration of the enormous advantage of building ships in compartments is afforded by the collision between the Thornhill and the Lotus. The former, although nearly thrice the size of the latter, sank in a few minutes, not being built in compartments. The Lotus, on the contrary, remained afloat, although badly damaged in the bows, her forward bulkhead keeping the water out of the remainder of the vessel. Let us hope that the collective wisdom will quickly recognise the propriety of enacting that every passenger ship shall be of similar construction.

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The queerest question ever addressed to me

came on a postcard the other day. The writer "wishes to know of a chemical that will make a gas to force through a wall to affect any one on the other side." It would need an exceedingly subtle vapor to accomplish such a remarkable feat. I would suggest that my correspondent should make a beginning by engaging a Portuguese cook to superintend his cuisine. There are few odours more penetrating or more nasty than those emanating from Portuguese cookery. If, however, this method proves unsatisfactory, a very annoying gas can be made by sprinkling asafoetida on a brazier of live coals. I cannot say how far it will pass through a brick wall, but it certainly penetrates in an instant the deepest recesses of one's interior economy.

All honour to Nawab Ashanullah Khan Bahadur, and may his shadow never grow less nor his name shorter! This worthy Mahomedan has just presented 1,000 rupees to the fund for the relief of the Baluchistan heroes, in recognition of their distinguished gallantry on behalf of Islam. I rather doubt whether any of them remembered that they were fighting for Islam when they went for the Russians. The British soldiers do not enter into nice ethics of that sort when the die is up. Like the British bulldog, he flies straight at his enemy without pausing to consider whether the quarrel be just or unjust.

What funny mistakes people make about Heligoland. The other evening I heard a gentleman explain to some ladies that it is a large and fertile island of the East African coast, between Zanzibar and Madagascar. Heligoland is, of course, of the German coast, and consists of two islets, the one of solid rock rising to some height out of the sea, the other little more than a sandbank. It has no value for England, but, on the contrary, entails upon her people an annual expenditure of hard cash. Yet there are some few Britons who scratch at justly as we were about to surrender Malta or Gibraltar.

It affords me unfeigned pleasure to learn that none of the designs for the Watkin Tower of Babel are considered to come up to the mark. The promised prizes were, of course, bestowed on the authors of the best designs, but it is extremely unlikely, I understand, that the project will be carried any further for the present. Like Sir Edward's Channel Tunnel, it promises to become one of our national nightmares, cropping up every now and then in misty shape to give us a scare, and presently vanishing into nothing.

In the highly-cultured land of Dahomey it is an established custom that a defeated commander must not re-enter the capital until he has wiped off his disgrace by a brilliant victory. When, therefore, King Badazin got a big licking from the French the other day, he looked about for some other foe whom he would be likely to thrash. The Egba tribe appearing to be the most promising, he went for them, gave them a good hiding, and proceeded to enter his capital in triumph. But the next day the Egbas, having received reinforcements, renewed the fight, and King Badazin had to seek safety in flight. No doubt, he will now pick a quarrel with some smaller tribe, to win the glorious victory he so much desires.

General Brackenbury has lived to hear himself judged by the world as he were dead. It was his brother, not himself, who passed away last week, but the papers mistake the one for the other, and published memoirs of the living general in the belief that he had gone to the happy hunting grounds. Fortunately, these notices were highly eulogistic in every instance, and the head of the military intelligence department has thus obtained a mass of entirely independent and impartial testimonials to his worthiness.

New York is still very far behind London in population. According to the census which was taken last year, the city of New York now contains only 1,627,227 inhabitants, but if all the neighbouring towns be included the population amounts to 2,800,000. Greater London is estimated to contain something over 5,000,000, and although its growth is not equal to that of New York, the latter will take very many years to catch the British metropolis. In one respect, however, Brother Jonathan gives us the go-by. He possesses two other cities—Philadelphia and Chicago—which can boast of having more than a million inhabitants, whereas there is not a town in the British Isles, outside London, which nearly reaches that figure.

MR. WHEELER.

Frank Shortland has again proved himself one of the finest road-riders in the world. His famous record ride from London to Edinburgh and speed, while his present "scorch" to Brighton and back in 7hrs. 10min. puts the seal on his fame. This beats the time of Selby's coach by 31min., and is six minutes less than that of the quartette who rode in instalments over the same course last year.

That good man and true, Mr. Edward Witherby, of the Surrey Wheelers, writes to me with reference to my recent criticism of his severe strictures on the cyclorn. His present contention is that "the musical chimes of a substantial gong are quite as effective as the diabolical din of a cyclorn."

That is precisely the issue between us; I hold that a gong, unless of the Chinese variety, is of next to no use in a crowded thoroughfare, nor is the sound it produces sufficiently distinctive. I grant that it is not so likely to scare horses as the other implement, but that merit would not save a cyclist from prosecution did an accident occur through its failing to give sufficient notice of his approach.

Take, for instance, what occurred to me when returning

JACK ALLROUND.

"I have got the sleeve of my cricket jacket stuck all over one side with tar. Can you help me to remove the same?" asks "Peter." "I have some pitch on my cricketing flannels and have used benzoline, and the pitch has spread and left a large stain on them. Will you be good enough to advise me the best thing to use?" writes "S. E. G." "The first thing to do in such cases is soften the pitch or fat or butter, otherwise you cannot hope to move it. Damp the stuff, apply the butter, rub it in with some soap, and allow both to lie on the stain for some minutes to take effect, then proceed to wash out the stain, first with oil of turpentine, then with hot water, repeating the two washes alternately; this process will not always suffice. If the tar or pitch still refuse to give way, try yolk of egg mixed with oil of turpentine, applied and allowed to dry on the stain. When dry scrape it away and you will probably move the stain; if a greasy patch remains, sponge with benzine collars, which is good for taking off grease, but of no use against the non-greasy constituents of pitch, &c. I have known a greasy patch on flannels quite cleared off by laying pure pipe-clay to the thickness of a florin over it and then setting it in the hot sun, when the clay will take all the grease into itself."

"G. J. B." has requested me to give the exact method of bottling fruits such as are sold in the grocers' shops with the bottles quite full of fruit and liquor," and adds "we have tried several printed recipes, but have not been successful." There are various methods, more or less like each other, used by different fruit preservers. Of these I can only give one, which I have known to succeed admirably. To be successful you must have good fresh fruit, properly prepared syrup, and good bottles that will stand boiling water, these may be wide-necked glass bottles with good fitting corks, or, as some prefer, screw-topped glass bottles, which facilitate manipulation at the crucial moment when the air is to be shut off from the boiling fruit. You must, if you use corked bottles, have hot wax ready to put over each cork at the moment of bottling, for if any air gets in you cannot succeed, no matter how exactly you may carry out all other directions.

To make the syrup, according to the quantity of fruit you mean to bottle, prepare the amount of syrup, using to a quarter of a pound of best cane sugar one pint of cold water; let the sugar and water lie together for an hour or so to melt, stirring them occasionally and keeping the vessel covered to prevent dust getting in. The vessel should be sound and able to bear boiling water; plunge it in the boiler surrounded with cold water, and before placing the boiler on the fire take a little of the mixed sugar and water and the white of an egg in a basin and whisk them up into a good froth, then add to the whole mass of syrup, whisking it all up till it froths, set it on the fire, and skin carefully, as the dross rises to the surface; let it boil for ten minutes, draw it off the fire, and let it stand; then skim carefully and allow it to cool to lukewarm. Having carefully picked your fruit, fill the bottles with them and place them in a boiler with slightly warm water. It is a good plan to have straw in the bottom of the boiler, as it lessens the chances of the bottles cracking. The water should be well up to the necks of the bottles, but not a drop must be lost in. Now pour the lukewarm syrup over the fruit, filling the bottles, leaving barely room for the corks, which are not to be put in yet. Set the boiler on the fire and let the water in it come to a boil and boil for ten minutes, then take out one bottle, cork it at once, and secure it well with the prepared hot wax over every portion and where it closes on the glass, so as absolutely to exclude all air, and so proceed with expedition through all the bottles. If next day any air bubbles appear it will show the operation has not been quite successful, and the scalding process must be repeated, the corks, of course, being removed. If screw bottles are used this will be easy enough. I have said above ten minutes for boiling fruit and syrup together; that applies to gooseberries. The smaller fruits, currants, raspberries, and strawberries, will require only five minutes.

In reply to three correspondents, who have asked how to make up French polish to be used with a pad, get a well-stoppered bottle that will hold over half a pint; get an ounce and a half of shellac and a quarter of an ounce of sandarach, bruise them up small, put them in the bottle, and pour over them half a pint of naphtha; cork closely and put in a rather warm place, shaking up the gums now and again, and they will be dissolved in a day or two. To use this, make a piece of flannel into a pad, or, as some prefer, take a little bunch of cotton wool and make it into a pad; wet either flannel or cotton wool well with the polish, then over it lay either one or two layers of clean linen rag, and tie the handle, so to speak, of your pad together, and on the flat of it put a drop of linseed oil, and rub your work in a circular direction with a steady, light pressure. To finish off, use a little naphtha plain on the inside.

Several applications have also come for aquaerium cement, which I think the following recipe will meet. Take half a pound of the best white lead ground in oil, and half a pound each of red lead and litharge, both dry; knead the two dry stumps into the wet white lead, and if you do it thoroughly, and get good material you have the very best putty you can use for glass aquaria. The glass should be well bedded into it, and when finished off you should let it lie by to harden for a fortnight. If, as "John J." says, he "needs something he can use at once" he has finished it, "I have nothing to give him. Scramble work of that sort is very seldom worth anything, and if he has not patience to wait for a fortnight or three weeks he is not likely to succeed in making a staunch piece of work. After the above he had a fortnight's hardening makes vanish. Take an ounce and a half of shellac and dissolve it in half a pint of methylated spirits, put it in a corked bottle, and shake it, and it will be ready for use in an hour or two. One coat of this laid on with a brush upon the putty and metal will be dry in an hour."

"Grace" wants to "make a good Irish stew." Use the best end of a neck of mutton, saw off the chine bone and trim off the fat and cut into cutlets, season them with pepper and salt; they should weigh about three pounds. Put them with the bones into a stewpan, covering them barely with cold water, stew gently for half an hour, then draw off the gravy and return the chops and gravy to the stewpan, slice up four onions and two turnips, peel seven or eight potatoes and cut them in halves, add a pint and a half of water or, better still, that amount of stock, cover the stewpan, and let it simmer gently for about two hours or perhaps less. When serving place the cutlets round them, and pour the gravy with the other vegetables over all. There are more economical forms of this savoury dish.

I have quite recently treated the subject of starches and starching, and then, as on other occasions, pointed out that the best, if not the only way, to learn to get up collars and cuffs, and to give them the gloss now expected from

THE CHARGE AGAINST THE MARQUIS DE LEUVILLE.

The Accused Acquitted.

At the Central Criminal Court on Wednesday, the Marquis de Leuville surrendered to his bail to answer an indictment charging him with conspiring with William Cronin and others to wreck the performance of a play, called "The Gold Craze," at the Princess's Theatre, and to injure Mr. John Henry Barnes in his profession as an actor. Mr. Geoghegan and Mr. Paul Taylor prosecuted; Mr. Cock, Q.C., and Mr. Gill defended.—On the case being called on, Mr. Geoghegan said there would be no evidence for the defendant leaving his seat near the barristers' table. The defendant, in reply to the indictment, pleaded not guilty, and the witness having been called and there being no answer, Mr. Geoghegan said he was in the position of a general without an army.—The Recorder: Then you are in full possession of yourself.—Mr. Geoghegan: No doubt, my lord; but I am afraid I cannot be counsel and witness rolled into one. I can say that the case should be adjourned.—Mr. Cock: Oh, no; there is not the slightest probability of the witnesses coming here.—The Recorder, as no evidence was offered, directed the jury to acquit the defendant, which they at once did.

THE VIOLINIST AND THE NAVY.

The following story is published:—Herr Joachim, of violin renown, had been playing at a concert in Manchester. After it was all over he was walking up and down the railway platform, enjoying a good cigar and the consciousness that he had never played better in his life. The cheers of his audience still rang in his ears, and he was full of pleasure and self-satisfaction. A respectable navy-looking man, dressed in his Sunday best, kept passing and repassing, and gazing intently at the great master. Presently he came up to Joachim and asked for a light. This the musician gave him. Having lit his pipe, he looked Joachim full in the face, and then, tapping him with emphasis on the shoulder, he said, "But Paganini was the man!" That was all. But it was enough. Joachim says he never felt so small in his life.

AT HOME AT OLYMPIA.

The magnificent skating ground at West Kensington is coming into vogue as a locale for fashionable receptions. Hostesses, instead of receiving their friends in their own drawing-rooms, which are apt to get too close and warm on these sunny afternoons, hire the spacious rink, where they can assemble any number of guests, provide them with gentle amusement, and allow them to listen to the strains of an excellent band, which has "room and verge enough" to develop its harmony. The music he had for this purpose between 5.30 and 7.30. A very successful reception of this kind was given the other evening by the Hon. Mrs. F. Armitage. The band of the Honourable Artillery Company played, the instructors and attendants of the Olympic Club were present to assist and advise those who desired to skate, and the claretakers looked after the tea, ices, strawberries and cream, &c. A numerous company, including the Earl of Montalb, and the Ladies Maude, Lady Villeneuve-Smith, Count Vince, Lady Jane Taylor, Mr. Collier, and Lady George Lennox, were present, and the affair was generally pronounced a very desirable "new departure."

In entertainments, which is likely to be extensively imitated. The attendance of the general public at Olympia continues to be extremely large, and roller skating as a popular pastime appears once more to have come into vogue.

THE HUMOURS OF THE BENCH.

In an amusing article upon the humours of the older lawyer the World says:—It is hard to resist an uncomfortable suspicion that the lawyers of past generations, who built up this profession for their posterity, must have been better men at quip, crank, and oddity than their successors of to-day. How they came by this superiority is another question, and one which is not particularly easy to answer. They can hardly have enjoyed better opportunities for the display of this talent than modern litigation affords, and they certainly had not the stimulus supplied by modern publicity. Perhaps, after all, they had less business and consequently more time to elaborate their imprentus. This may be rather a cheap form of comfort, but we may as well cling to it in default of any better. The story told of some old chief justice—we forget at the moment—which will serve to point the contrast between the past and the present. In the course of a criminal case which he was trying a man burst into court, declaring that he had received a divine mandate to order the proceedings to be stopped. Upon which the judge observed, "If the Lord had sent thee, it would have been to the Attorney-general, for He knoweth that a nolle prosequi belongeth not to the chief justice." It would be hopeless, we fear, to look for a rejoinder like this from any living judge. It is more than probable, indeed, that his lordship would have recourse to the vulgar expedient of coercion, and the intruder would be dismissed by the court officials, to the extinction of any humorous possibilities of the situation. Perhaps the nearest approach in modern times to the old subtlety of humour is the remark attributed to Lord Justice Bowen, that truth will always leak out, sometimes even into an affidavit.

MILITARY CYCLING COMPETITION.
TO THE EDITOR OF "THE PEOPLE."

Sir.—The executive of the Royal Military Exhibition have, at my instigation, decided to hold a competition in the arena of the exhibition, open to teams of four bona fide members of the cyclist section of Volunteer regiments. The competition will consist of riding about three-quarters of a mile, surmounting obstacles, and firing a given number of rounds of blank ammunition. The competition will be held on the evening of July 10th and on the succeeding evening if necessary. The winning team will be presented with silver badges and season tickets for the exhibition, and the second team with bronze badges and season tickets. Entries will be received up to July 5th. There is no entrance fee or special form of entry, but each entry must give the names of the members of the team. I shall be pleased to give further particulars to intending competitors or to receive and forward entries to the proper quarter.—Yours, &c.,
ROBERT EDWARD PHILLIPS,
Captain 29th Middlesex (Cyclist) R.V.
79, Chancery-lane, W.C., June 24th.

A POSTMAN'S BREACH OF PROMISE.

At Birkenhead County Court, Mr. J. T. Thompson, solicitor, applied to his honour Judge Wynne Foulkes, on behalf of Mary Jane Roberts, spinster, of Westbourne-road, Birkenhead, for an order against Thomas Griffith Morris, a letter-carrier, living at 26, Bright-street, for payment of £24 4s. 2d., including £30 awarded Roberts in the recent breach of promise action she brought against Morris at Chester. Defendant stated that since the action he had given up the letter-carrying, and was now working as a tailor. At present he was only an improver, and earned but small wages. He could not pay more than a shilling a week.—His honour made an order for the defendant to pay 10s. per month on the first two months, and afterwards £1 per month until the amount had been paid off.

PAPER PATTERNS OF CHILDREN'S FIFTEEN YEARS OLD. Fifty illustrations of Summer Costumes, May-July. Seventy illustrations of Summer Costumes, August-September. Sixty illustrations for cutting out and making, fancy work lessons in Millinery and Home Dress-making, &c. Price 2s. post free 4d.—WELDON AND CO., Southampton-street, Strand, London.—(Adv.)

ALLEGED OUTRAGE ON A GIRL.

A young man named Robert Wilson Elliott, described as a painter and decorator, and residing at Bingleyton Quay, was charged at Leeds with assaulting a young woman named Harriet Googe, domestic servant, Keighley. The assault was said to have been committed between Bingley and Saltaire in the compartment of a third-class carriage in the Midland express train timed to leave Keighley for Leeds about two o'clock on Monday afternoon. Detective-inspector Evans, of the Midland Railway police, informed his worship that it was not intended to proceed with the case in the Leeds Court. The chief constable said he had no objection to the course suggested, and as there was no evidence offered the defendant was formally discharged. It is understood that the defendant was then handed over to the county police authorities.

CHARGE OF FRAUD AND BIGAMY.

Sidney David Egan, alias William Ewart Moran, aged 33, who had the appearance of a seafaring man, and described himself as an engineer, was charged at the Bow-street Police Court on Wednesday, on remand, with stealing £34, belonging to Emma Elizabeth Moran.—The facts of the case, as sworn to in the formal information upon which a warrant was granted, were of an extraordinary character. On the 5th of March, 1887, Mrs. Moran was married to the prisoner, who gave the name of William Ewart Moran. After their marriage they travelled about the country, and in April went to Winchelsea. He left her to visit Portsmouth, and she returned him with £34, money received under the will of her father. It was arranged that they should meet at the Charing Cross Hotel on May 18th. She went there day after day, but he did not put in an appearance. She accordingly applied to this court for advice with the result that a warrant was issued for the arrest of the accused. Since April, 1887, Detective-instructor Conquest has been engaged from time to time in efforts to secure the arrest of the accused. It was effected at Charing Cross Station on the 17th inst. The prisoner denied that he was Moran, but at the police station he was identified as the individual who had married Mrs. Moran through the medium of an advertisement, and two other women recognised him as having gone through the marriage ceremony with them in the names of George Angus Everard Bevers and Sydney David Egard. The prisoner referred to his brother-in-law, a Mr. Hurst, but that gentleman declined to have anything to do with him. He stated that the prisoner had married his sister fourteen years ago. Mr. Sims prosecuted on behalf of the Public Prosecutor; Mr. George Wallis defended.—Mr. Sims said that the case had only recently been brought under the notice of the solicitor to the Treasury, and he would have to ask for a further remand. Other charges would be preferred. Up to the present it had been ascertained that the prisoner had gone through the ceremony of marriage with no less than five women.—Mr. Vaughan: Then you propose changing him with bigamy?—Mr. Sims: Yes.—Mr. Wallis protested against the remand, on the ground that it was an injustice to the prisoner, who had been in custody a week—ample time for the prosecution to prepare their case. He had been seen by five witnesses, and three of these had failed to recognise him. In fact, he (Mr. Wallis) at the proper time would be prepared to show that this was the most remarkable case of mistaken identity of modern times.—Mr. Vaughan said, with regard to the question of identification, he had already heard evidence on the last occasion. He was satisfied even then.—The prisoner was remanded.—There were several females in court who, it was understood, attended with a view of identifying the prisoner.

STEALING £4,600 WORTH OF STOCK.

At the Central Criminal Court Paul Vaughan Lemish, aged 24, pleaded guilty to stealing stock of the value of £4,600, the property of Mr. William Stannard Green. The prisoner was a clerk in the service of the firm of Sir R. Carden and Co., stockbrokers, and he absconded, taking the stock with him; he had been wholly bad; he had his life to live over again. When arrested he had only a half penny in his pocket.—Evidence in support of the specific charges having been given, the prisoner pleaded guilty. He said he was very sorry, but if it was ever in his power to make amends to Messrs. Monroe he would do so. Some of the money he had lent, and he had got £100, which he had handed over. The magistrates said they were sorry to see a young man in such a position, but the case was a very serious one, and the sentence of the court was that he be imprisoned for six months, with hard labour.

A SHOCKING SCENE WAS WITNESSED IN DUDLEY-ROAD, WOLVERHAMPTON, ON THURSDAY.

Isaiah Hill, whose wife had refused to live with him, met her in the street and endeavoured to effect a reconciliation. Falling in this, Hill drew a razor out of his pocket, and in the presence of a crowd of people, cut his throat. He died shortly after admission to the hospital.

An intimation has been received from the Local Government Board sanctioning the Camberwell Vestry to borrow the sum of £3,000 for the purpose of purchasing a freehold site in the parish for the erection of public baths and washhouses. It is also proposed to build similar structures in East Dulwich, and plans are being now prepared.

ALL IN SEARCH OF HEALTH, STRENGTH, AND VIGOUR.

SHOULD STOP TAKING POISONOUS DRUGS AND QUACK MEDICINES AND TRY NATURE'S REMEDIES.

APPLIED IN THE MOST NATURAL AND EFFECTIVE FORM POSSIBLE, BY SIMPLY WASHING.

HARNESSES ELECTROPATHIC BELTS.

HARNESSES ELECTROPATHIC BELTS.

HARNESSES ELECTROPATHIC BELTS.

THE THEATRES.

HER MAJESTY'S.

"There's no lack about the house" may well be said over the great theatre in the Haymarket, for ever since the re-building, after fire had consumed its predecessor, the house, whether open or shut, has been a dismal failure. This ill-fortune continued to the French companies now and lately occupying the stage. First came "La Lutte pour la Vie," which opened the house, to be superseded forthwith by "Paris Fin de Siècle," which speedily closed it, and in the middle of the season for which it had been taken by the management, which like nature, abhors a vacuum. The re-opening was furthermore delayed for a week by the illness of Madame Bernhardt, who even now that she has come brings with her as dreary and undramatic a play in M. Barbier's "Jeanne d'Arc," that not even the genius of the greatest of living actresses, supplemented by the music of Gounod, with the burning of La Pucelle at the stake thrown in as a sensational ending to the piece, could relieve the audience from the tedium induced by its long speeches without a tittle of dramatic action or significance. This weariness could not have arisen through the audience not comprehending what they heard fall so musically from the lips of Madame Bernhardt, forasmuch as the theatre was mainly occupied by her own compatriots, who cheered and applauded to the echo whenever the chance was given them. Such an opportunity came at the culmination of a patriotic tirade against the English invaders, culminating with the exclamation, "France, tu revivras!" ("France, thou shalt live again!"). This exclamation, declaimed with all the actress's wonted fire, was evidently applied by the lively Gauls who heard it to the present state of affairs in their own country, calling forth, as it did, voluminous applause and acclamations equally from such opposite representatives as the Duke d'Aunale and his grand nephew, the son of the Count de Paris, newly returned from durance, on the one hand, and M. Rochfort, the stern uncompromising Republican, on the other. Still physically weak after the pain and prostration caused by her lameness, it was no wonder that Madame Bernhardt showed herself literally played out in the final scene, when she was heard to cry to the prompter, "Rideau, rideau" ("Curtain, curtain"). A play with the foremost heroines of French history as its chief character, was acted in London fifty years ago, with the great Rachel in the title role; and an English drama upon the same theme by Tom Taylor, was also produced a quarter of a century later at the now disestablished Queen's Theatre in Long Acre, in which Mrs. Rousby played Joan. All these plays ended with the death of the famous deliverer of her country at the Rouen stake, a piece of stage realism which, be it noted, called forth earnest public protests against the brutalizing effects of the horrifying treatment, which a latter day audience witnesses with apparent complacency.

LYCEUM.

Faithful to their published programme, the Daily comedians on Tuesday night set aside "Casting a Boomerang" in favour of "Nancy and Company." This "trifle, light as air," originally seen with the same brilliant interpreters at the Strand during their last visit, has, under their hands, lost none of its exhilarating vivacity, either by use or time. The audience, tickled anew by the exquisite humour of the actors, rippled with laughter with no less a sense of hearty enjoyment at the end of the last act than at the close of the first. Miss Rehan, Mr. Drew, Mr. Lewis, and Mrs. Gilbert, with their ever effervescent animation, were again to the full admirably aided andabetted in their welcome artistic delineations by new comers in Mr. Eugene Ormond, and notably Mr. Burn Macintosh. The perplexity of love and jealousy from its humorous side was expressed with singular naturalness and sincerity by the latter gentleman. With farce acted with such refinement and well-marked characterization as elevated its tone to that of high comedy, no wonder that the Lyceum is nightly thronged with visitors, a considerable contingent consisting of the most socially distinguished of the American colony now in our midst.

THE OUTLYING THEATRES.

At the Surrey, the new feature in the programme has been the presentation of "Dangers of London," a new drama by Mr. F. A. Scudamore, originally produced in the provinces at the Cardiff Theatre. The original feature in the plot is that the phonograph is the instrument that clears the innocent and brings the guilty to justice. Otherwise, the chief incidents are of a stereotyped kind, but they are well put together. The chief male characters were commendably represented by Mr. W. H. Hallatt, Mr. C. H. Goldsworthy, Mr. C. Faherty, Mr. J. W. Henson, and the author, Mr. Scudamore, who, in the character of the royal friend, has a small part, of which he makes a character study. As the heroine, Miss M. Ford, scored well, as did also Miss Corbie as a scheming and unscrupulous widow. Miss J. Thomas is also to be praised for her light comedy. The other members of the company rendered effective aid in an interpretation that evoked the commendation of the audience.—On Monday Mr. Henry Irving and the Lyceum company will commence a fortnight's engagement, the initial performance being "The Bells"; Mr. F. Wright and company will appear in "Face to Face" at the Surrey; the Beatrice company in "The World Against Her" at the Margravine; and Miss J. Steer and company in "The Cloven Foot" at the Pavilion. Mr. Arthur Williams will appear in his original character in "The Secret of a Life" at the Britannia; "Humanity" will be revived at the Elephant and Castle; and "The Ticket-of-Leave Man" at the Stratford.

ALHAMBRA.

In the production of "Salandra," the new spectacular ballet, the management of the Alhambra have eclipsed their previous efforts in originality in the way of dresses and accessories. The designs are unique, and the colours as harmonious as they are brilliant, and reflect high credit on Mr. H. Gray and Mr. and Madame Alias. In his plot Signor Casati has made the fickle male personage a married man, who is punished for his flirtation with a gipsy queen by having his mountain chateau burn down (a splendid scene), and his little son stolen, the latter being compelled to learn the business of an acrobat. The scenes in which the action takes place respectively represent Roumanian palace gardens, the saloon of a yacht, a landscape in Bulgaria, a view in the Caucasus, and a seaport in Tartary, all of which are in Mr. T. E. Ryan's best style. In the principal dances, Signor Legnani and Signor de Vincenti acquit themselves with their usual grace and agility, and they are ably supported by Master Ethardo, Mille. Marie, Mlle. Zimmerman, Mlle. Recalci, and Madame Roffey. The music of M. Jacobi is exhilarating and tuneful; and, as usual, the corps de ballet is numerous and efficient. The production met with a deservedly enthusiastic reception.

CANTERBURY THEATRE OF VARIETIES.

Beyond question, the most noticeable personage at this theatre just now is the builder and decorator, who is effecting what

will hereafter prove to be magnificent improvements, which, by the way, the contractor, Mr. W. Salter, is confident of completing by the end of the present month. Although this is the case, Mr. G. A. Payne has made up for any little inconvenience the visitors might suffer by improving the entertainment. First and foremost is an absurdity, entitled "A Look In," a sketch which will interest those who love pantomime well carried out. Messrs. W. Edmunds and W. Pink are the authors of this diverting piece, which is cleverly interpreted by the Albert and Edmunds troupe, Mr. Herbert Campbell's essay—descriptive of a waygoose, a second on the difficulty of deception, and a third contrasting the nobility of past time with the present—are capital of their kind, and, as such, are recognised by the audience. A favourable impression is made by the Black Swan trio, who contribute harmonious glee-singing. One of the ladies of this trio gives an artistic rendering of "The song that reached my heart," and another shows considerable promise as a male impersonator. Mr. J. W. Bowley gives his hearers a humorous account of his neighbours, and is also amusingly diffuse in praise of his donkey. Miss Lydia Yeaman has made "Fair Madeline farewell," her special effort during the past week with a gratifying result. The programme also contains items contributed by such well-known entertainers as the agile Craags troupe, the Haytors, Mr. J. J. Coleman, Miss Nellie L'Estrange, Lydia and Star, and others. The performance is directed with every success by Mr. Payne, who is well supported by Mr. A. Treasider.

PARAGON THEATRE OF VARIETIES.

This handsome theatre possesses a special attractiveness for East-end amusement-seekers during the summer months, not only by reason of the absence of undue oppressiveness in the auditorium, but also by the fact that at all times there is to be found here a good entertainment. The one now being given under the direction of Mr. George A. Payne contains ample variety, being composed of two diverting sketches, &c. Numerous incidental musical selections, &c. The wondrous Craags evoke admiration by the agility they display in executing calisthenic feats; the Haytor troupe contrived to make their contortionist act fairly amusing; and Mr. J. J. Coleman's vocal contributions are enlivened by eccentric dancing. Miss Lydia Yeaman, attired in a picturesque court dress, essays popular dances with marked success, the intervals between her songs being beguiled with excellent piano-roll selections by Mr. Titus. The stirring military sketch, "Our Ladys in Red," is the principal feature of the entertainment, and Mr. G. H. Macdermott and Mr. W. Day have found the East-enders no less enthusiastic over brave deeds than the Surrey siders. Few sketches furnish so much genuine entertainment and afford such opportunities for effective tableaux as this piece, in which pathos and humour go hand in hand. Miss Nellie L'Estrange champions the cause of women in serious comic verse, and, meeting with success, is prompted to do the same service for the soldier. Mr. James Taylor's company enact a humorous sketch, entitled "The Marion," and there are few persons who will not laugh heartily over the malapropisms of Miss Ada Alexander as the Dutch housewife. "The Elopement," a pantomime absurdity, played by the Albert and Edmunds troupe, is full of humour. Other interesting items are: "We drew his club money," contributed by Mr. J. W. Bowley; part-gleaming by the Black Swan trio; and an acrobatic specialty by the Wurtemberg troupe. Mr. G. A. Payne has here an exceptionally brilliant company, and he is ably assisted in its management by Mr. A. Thiodon.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

St. Paul."

An excellent performance of Mendelssohn's first oratorio, "St. Paul"—produced at Leipzig, April, 1836—was given Saturday at the Crystal Palace, in Handel Festival style. The Handel orchestra was filled by an army of vocalists and instrumentalists, the former including over 3,000 voices, and the Handel Festival Band was reinforced by the grand organ. When all these forces joined in the opening chorus, "Lord, thou alone art God," the effect was startling, but superb, and equally admirable was the body of tone in the choruses, "O great is the depth," "The Nations are not the Lord's," "The Gods themselves," "O ye gracious, ye immortal," and "But our God abideth in Heaven." The bass voices were of remarkably fine quality, rich, sonorous, and equally good in the lower and higher registers. The alto voices also commanded admiration. The tenors and soprano were good, but the latter were at times unable to make themselves sufficiently well heard. The most interesting portions of the performance were the chorales of which "Sleepers, wake!" a voice is calling" was the most successful. The pure soprano quality of the voices of 500 boys, specially engaged for this occasion, had a delightful effect; so delightful, in fact, that we may expect to find boy voices prominently attractive future performances of oratorios at the Crystal Palace.

The principal parts were in safe hands, Mme. Albani in "I will sing of Thy great mercies"; Mme. Patay in "But the Lord is mindful of His ... n"; and Mr. Lloyd, in "Be thou faithful unto death," repeated familiar triumphs, and Mr. Watkin Mills, although evidently nervous, won considerable success in "O God, have mercy." The two last named artists sang the duet "How lovely are the messengers" capitally, but it must be admitted that it is chiefly as a choral work that Mendelssohn's "St. Paul" commands admiration, and that the opportunities of distinction provided for the four principal artists are not remarkably advantageous. "Elijah" is, in all respects, finer work than "St. Paul," but the latter, with its abundance of interesting choruses, will always be welcomed when produced on the liberal scale adopted at Saturday's performance. Mr. Mann conducted in masterly style, and the performance was worthy of the Crystal Palace.

The charming daughter of Mrs. John Wood, Miss Florence Wood, is on the eve of marriage with Mr. Lawson the author of "Aunt Jack," withdrawn after a long run of success from the Court, for which theatre this clever young dramatist is writing a piece to follow, in the dim and distant future. Mr. Pinero's "Cabinet Minister," "The English Rose" is the title, bar changes, of the new Irish drama written by Messrs. Buchanan and Sims for production at the Adelphi in the early autumn.—The new theatre now in course of construction in Cranbourne-street will be leased by Mr. George Edwardeis, who, however, will not run the house himself, but sublet it for purposes of comic opera.—Mr. Thomas Thorne has secured a long lease of the Vaudeville, and at the same time got possession of the small flower shop next door, with a view to an entire reconstruction by widening the facade. Ultimately he purposed considerably enlarging the theatre itself.—Mr. H. J. Leslie has withdrawn from the position of manager-director of the Tivoli Music Hall.—In aid of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, Mr. Daly has generously given the use of the Lyceum on the afternoon of the 17th inst., when his company will play "As You Like It," supplemented by Mr. Irving and Miss Terry in an act of "Olivia, and possibly Mr. Hale in a scene from "

"Pair of Spectacles."—Mr. Charles Warner is returning from Australia to fulfil an engagement at Drury Lane with Mr. Augustus Harris.—Mr. Frohman has purchased the acting rights of Mr. Haddon Chamber's play, "The Idler," forthcoming at the Avenue, for America.

MR. MONTAGU WILLIAMS AND THE IRISHMAN.

At the Thames Police Court the other day, a young man stepped into the witness-box, and addressing Mr. Montagu Williams, the presiding magistrate, said he was a stranger and wished to be sent home to Ireland. Mr. Williams I exclaim there are a good many strangers from Ireland in this country. For my part I wish they could all be sent back. Mr. Williams then explained to the applicant that he had no power, and would not exercise it if he had, to send back to their own country any stranger who might come to England.

A WONDERFUL RED TAPE STORY.

An instance of Post Office red tape has just come to light which, says a correspondent, is now engaging the attention of the authorities. An "auxiliary" letter-carrier in a southern district desired to qualify for promotion as a postman. He submitted himself for examination under the regulations requiring that he should be physically fit. He was informed that he had eight teeth, which disqualify him. The "auxiliary" at once went and had the offending teeth extracted at his own expense. Still the authorities were not satisfied; there were two doubtful ones, which were also condemned. With this further order the "auxiliary" also complied when he was told on production of a certified copy of his baptismal certificate he would be eligible for a

A CHLOROFORM INQUIRY.

The Lancet contains a selection of the tracings obtained by the Hyderabad Chloroform Commission, which will prove of the utmost importance in determining the proper mode of averting the danger connected with the administration of this anaesthetic. With a view of conveying the information to as great a number of medical scientists as possible, copies of the Lancet have, by order of his Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad, been forwarded to every University, medical college and school, and to all the hospitals in the world. The same number of the Lancet contains a special article on the subject by Surgeon-major Lawrie, through whose instrumentality the greatest work has been done. A detachment of cavalry has been despatched to the spot by special train. The brigands are reported to have sent a messenger demanding a ransom for their prisoners of £12,000.

LED ASTRAY BY BETTING.

A son of Mahmoud Dannah Pacha, the Sultan's brother-in-law, who was visiting a friend at a farm at Sinckli, near Tehtaldja, on the Eastern Railway, distant about ninety kilometres from Constantinople, has been carried off by brigands into the mountains, together with his friend who accompanied him. A detachment of cavalry has been despatched to the spot by special train. The brigands are reported to have sent a messenger demanding a ransom for their prisoners of £12,000.

A TERRIBLE FALL.

Mr. S. Bright, county coroner, held an inquest at Pemberton, on the body of Joseph Shaw, collier, 26 years of age. Deceased was employed at the No. 3 pit of the Orwell Coal and Cannel Company's Colliery, Pemberton, and a few days ago was assisting the engine-winder and banksman to remove tubs from a cage when the latter was lowered, and descended down the shaft, a distance of over 200 yards.—The engine-winder and banksman despatched that they received a signal by electric communication to lower the cage, but those in charge of the bell did not hearing given the order. The inquiry lasted about four hours, and the evidence was of a most contradictory character. The verdict was that deceased came by his death accidentally, but the jury were of the opinion that the signal was given to the engine-winder, although they were unable to state who gave the order. They condemned the practice of the "hooker-on" going into the cage while it was in the shaft, and suggested that an iron hook should be used, and that no one but an authorised person should be allowed to interfere with the signals.

A COURAGEOUS WIFE.

At the London County Sessions, Joseph Wright, 25, labourer, was indicted for stealing a watch, value 30s., the property of William Fisher, Mr. Leyester prosecuted.—On May 27th, the prosecutor met the prisoner in a public-house, and at his (prisoner's) request allowed him to accompany him home, and while there the prisoner took the watch from the mantelpiece. During his evidence the prosecutor said that his wife was clever enough to catch hold of the prisoner as he was running off with it, and held him by the collar.—Mr. Leyester: What did you do?—The Witness: I looked on—(laughter)—because I thought she could manage him—(renewed laughter)—for she is rather a plucky one. She held him in the crowd which soon assembled until the policeman came up and took him into custody.—By the Prisoner: My wife might have paid for a pint of beer for me, because she is not greedy. (Laughter).—Mrs. Fisher, who gave her evidence very clearly, in reply to the prisoner told him that "I did not see you throw the watch away, because I had gone to the police station with my arm bleeding where you had knocked me about, you beast?"—The prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to six months' hard labour.

A BATCH OF IMPOSTORS.

At the London County Sessions, Michael Brady, 67, a labourer, was brought up from Millbank Prison to be dealt with as an incorrigible rogue and vagabond.—Mr. Colman, the chief officer of the Mendicity Society, informed the court that the defendant had been convicted no less than forty times for begging. He had a deformed hand, and used to exhibit it to excite sympathy.—The learned chairman sentenced him to six months' hard labour.—Henry Jones, a shoe repairer, was charged with a similar offence—for that he having been previously convicted of being an idle and disorderly person, did frequent a certain public place with intent to commit a felony.—A sentence of six months' hard labour was passed upon him.—Edward Montagu, 53, who was convicted by Mr. D'Eyncourt, at the Westminster Police Court, on the 11th June, for having been found in a certain public place wandering abroad, begging and gathering alms, was next placed in the dock to be dealt with.—Against him Colman proved a long record of previous convictions for having imposed upon the public, his practice being to pretend that he was in a fit by causing froth to come from his mouth by means of a piece of soap.—The learned chairman sent him to gaol for six calendar months.—Marius Bernard Fraenkel, 42, a French schoolmaster, said to be very well educated, was indicted for a similar offence.—Colman proved several former convictions, and he was sentenced to four months' hard labour.—Mary Ann Mason, 34, was sent to Millbank Prison for six calendar months.—John Blake, 54, labourer, was the next placed in the dock to be dealt with.—Colman proved that he was a "cab tout," and that during the thirty-one years he had been in London he had never done any work and had been convicted over a dozen times.—Francis Crown, 67 years of age, was charged with a similar offence.—Colman and Francis Fryer, officers of the Mendicity Society, gave evidence that they saw the defendant in Gloucester Crescent, Westbourne Park, on Saturday, the 14th inst., begging from house to house, and proved that there were no fewer than eighty convictions against him.—As, however, he had not been convicted since 1888, the learned chairman let him off with three months' imprisonment.

REMARKABLE BREACH OF PROMISE.

ALLEGED ASSAULT BY A SCHOOL TEACHER.

At the West London Police Court, Mrs. Martin, one of the teachers of Flora Gardens Board School, Hammersmith, appeared to answer an adjourned summons charging her with assaulting Frederick Jackson, aged 6 years, who was in her class, by striking him on the head with a pointer. Mr. W. T. Raymond, barrister, appeared for the defendant.—Mr. Edward Tatham, surgeon, of Glenthorne-road, said on May 28th, twenty-four hours after the alleged assault, he was called to see the child, who was in a semi-conscious state, and had symptoms of irritation of the membrane of the brain. Over-study or a blow would cause it. He examined the child, and found no external marks. The child always complained of one spot.—In answer to questions, the doctor said that, as there were not any marks, it was difficult to say what was the cause of the irritation. A fright or a push might have caused it. There was no proof of the child having had a blow.—For the defence, Winifred Kimber was called. She said she was under the defendant, and was in the class-room on May 27th. She did not see her strike the child, nor did she hear him cry. The boy did not show symptoms of being in pain. Witness accompanied the defendant to the child's mother, who acknowledged that there was no sign of a blow. The defendant did not say that she was sorry and did not mean to hurt the child. The mother's statement in that respect was not true.—By the Magistrate: The defendant used a cardboard pointer to point to things on the wall.—At the request of the magistrate the cardboard pointers used by the defendant were produced, and it was stated that they were supplied by the School Board because they were soft.—Mrs. Sara Holme, the head mistress, stated that she made inquiries of the children, and did not hear from any of them that the boy had been struck. For discipline and tone the defendant's class was the best in the school. She was liked by the mothers.—Mr. Cooke interposed and said he would not trouble counsel to call other witnesses, as his impression was that the defendant had not struck the child. In dismissing the summons, he observed that it was most important that no child in any school, especially in a board school, should be chastised in any way by an under-teacher, who should always report to the head mistress.

DIPHTHERIA IN PADDINGTON.

A number of cases of diphtheria, several of them of a fatal character, have lately occurred in Paddington, and up to the present time it has been impossible to trace the origin of the outbreak. A letter lately appeared in a contemporary from a parent of a schoolboy who had died of the disease, in which the blame was laid upon the water supplied to children at the Paddington Recreation Ground, and in consequence, on the initiative of Mr. Mark Judge, the matter was referred for inquiry to the sanitary committee of the Paddington Vestry. A special meeting of the latter body accordingly took place for the purpose of hearing the result of the investigation. Mr. W. H. Mills, the deputy-chairman, presided. Sir George Harris, previous to reading the formal report of the committee, remarked that the inquiries were not by any means yet completed. The report stated that the committee fully realised the gravity of the outbreak of diphtheria in the parish, and in consequence of a statement made by the writer of a letter to the press that five boys who had drunk the water supplied at the recreation ground had died of the disease, they had caused a searching and scientific investigation to be made into the matter. The result of that had been to show that the water supplied for drinking purposes was not only free from any sort of insanitary contamination, but was perfectly pure. Thousands of children drank of it daily; many persons who had not touched it had suffered from diphtheria; while it was also a fact that one of the five boys particularly mentioned had not been in the ground at all, and that another had before death stated that whilst he was there he did not drink any water.—The report was eventually ordered to be entered upon the minutes and the committee requested to continue their inquiries.

A FRENCH KING once said he would wish that every Frenchman had a fowl in his pot, and that every Frenchman had a tin of Keen's Mustard in stock. All of us Keen's are engaged, and each tin should contain 100 weight, 100s. and 10s. Postage paid, 1d.

CARRIED OFF BY BRIGANDS.

A son of Mahmud Dannah Pacha, the Sultan's brother-in-law, who was visiting a friend at a farm at Sinckli, near Tehtaldja, on the Eastern Railway, distant about ninety kilometres from Constantinople, has been carried off by brigands into the mountains, together with his friend who accompanied him. A detachment of cavalry has been despatched to the spot by special train. The brigands are reported to have sent a messenger demanding a ransom for their prisoners of £12,000.

ACCIDENT AT THE MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

At the Agricultural Hall, Islington, in the sword competition, an accident

occurred on Tuesday night. Whilst Sergeant-major Faulkner, of the 15th Hussars, and Sergeant Hollis, of the 20th Hussars, were battling for the honours, the latter's horse slipped and fell. Faulkner, falling under his horse, was stunned and rendered senseless for a few minutes. After being led out of the arena, the sergeant-major returned, subsequently re-engaged his former antagonist and defeated him, at which the vast concourse cheered vociferously.

BENSON'S THREE-QUARTER PLATE ENGLISH LEVER.

** LUDGATE ** WATCH

Is better Value than any Non-keyless English Lever ever made.

COMPENSATION CLAUSES.

demonstration in Victoria Park. An open air demonstration to protest against the Local Taxation Bill recently introduced by the Government, took place on Saturday in Victoria Park. It was stated that four of the five hundred organisations did not represent, including constituents from the London Grand Division, the Sons of Temperance, the New Liberal and Radical Association, the Assembly Hall, Mile End, the Adult School, British Women's Temperance Association, the Independent Order of Good Templars, Church of England Temperance Friends, and other kindred bodies, together with a display of flags, banners, and bands of music; but as a matter of fact when the whole of the contingents had marched there were probably not more than 12,000 or 13,000 persons present, a large portion of whom, as is always the case when demonstrations are held, being merely curiosities. There was no general rendezvous, the procession making its own way to the park. The proceedings commenced punctually at the appointed time, six o'clock, but after that time various contingents, with bands playing and banners flying, were constantly arriving. Many of the speakers were compelled to stop several times during their speeches, as it was impossible for their voices to be heard amid the din that was created by the bands. There were ten speakers, which were used as platforms, and nearly 100 speakers were advertised to address the assembly, among them being W. Lawson, M.P., the Rev. Hugh Price Evans, Mr. H. J. Wilson, M.P., Mr. J. M. Arnott, Mr. F. N. Charrington, Mr. R. Winsford Smith, Mr. R. J. Broggs, Mr. Fenwick, M.P., Mr. A. D. Provost, M.P., Mr. Skerrell, M.P., Rev. J. E. Porter, the Ante-Schack, and the Rev. Canon Barker. There was also a large number of Socialists present, some of whom were loud in their protestation against the present system of government.

THE SPEECHES.
Dr. J. W. Benn, who presided at No. 1 platform, declared that Mr. Ritchie and Mr. Arnott were prepared to become Methodists, Independents, Baptists, or anything so that they were able to pass the Licensing Bill into law. He described these gentlemen as "Shakers," and said that the bill would largely increase the value of public-houses.—Mr. R. G. Smith, who followed, said that the temperance party did not intend, if they could possibly help it, to let the bill become law, as it would put back the cause of temperance for many years to come. He ridiculed the idea that the trade was going to pay for the compensation of the publicans, arguing that when the money went into the coffers of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, it belonged as much to the temperance party as to the "boozers." The proposal of the Government was a nonsensical one, for the brewers and distillers would get the money, and the publicans would receive no benefit.—Mr. R. J. Bragg contended that the country in 1888 had protested against compensation, and he asserted that as it had not changed its mind since that time, the proposal ought not to have been brought forward.—Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., in rising, caused some amusement by stating that, as he had very little hair on his head, he hoped those present would allow him to put on a black cap to pronounce sentence of death on Mr. Ritchie. He went on to say that, although temperance was a very good thing, he did not wish it to be understood that he was present at that meeting simply and solely to advocate it. He spoke in behalf of what he termed "political justice," which lay at the foundation of the law of the land of any country. A short time ago, he added, they had a "democracy in the West-end where the idle people and the aristocracy lived," whom he described as the dangerous classes. If it were not for the working classes, he did not know what would become of this country. He greatly preferred the makers of wealth to the spenders of wealth, as they were more interested in the maintenance of law and order. He objected to the money produced by labour in this country being handed over to the big brewers. It was said that the bill of the Government would extinguish them, but he denied this, and declared that if they were left alone they would extinguish themselves. He asserted that it was one of the most absurd propositions he had ever heard, and the only effect of the bill would be to raise the price of brewery shares. This was a scheme of some mysterious reason, the people of this country allowed to manage their affairs. He thought the upper classes had ruled long enough. A nearer or easier device than the present one, which was to rid the classes out of the political history of this country. Pigs might fly, but he did not think that the men who had spent their lives in reviling and ridiculing temperance were those who would act in its interests. It was a grand sight in the House of Commons recently to see Mr. Chaplin and Lord Hartington hurrying from Ascot to vote in a division. He could fancy the bookmakers and blacklegs of Ascot encouraging them, in the words of Mrs. Whiteman, to come to the rescue. He did not believe in the sudden conversion of the Government; actions spoke louder than words. Sir Wilfrid concluded by stating that the scheme of the Government, if passed, would rivet chains upon the necks of the people of this country, and make them the slaves of the brewers "forevermore."—Mr. J. Burns was one of the principal speakers at another platform, and in the course of his remarks spoke of the recent triumph of the dockers, declaring that in the course of the struggle the lawyers had the satisfaction of getting through before the "floods" came down. Not so lucky was Colonel Laurie and his fine 3rd London Battalion, who were drawn up in the square of Wellington Barracks when the "heavens opened." On the other hand, the 1st V.B. E.W. Surrey, which had an early inspection parade at Mitcham Barracks, passed a capital inspection under Colonel Hersey, commanding the 2nd Regimental District, in presence of a large company. In fact, the battalions which had fixed an early hour for their parade had decidedly "the best of it."

THE OTHER BATTALIONS.
The smallest, but also among the smartest of the battalions inspected on Saturday, was that of the 14th Middlesex (Inn of Court) Rifles, at the head of which rode Col. Russell, the master being one of four companies of about twenty-four files, and a smart little detachment of mounted infantry, numbering seventeen. The march past, with which the proceedings commenced, was most creditable, and the inspecting officer, Colonel Mildmay Wilson, expressed his complete satisfaction with the inspection, which the lawyers had the satisfaction of getting through before the "floods" came down. Not so lucky was Colonel Laurie and his fine 3rd London Battalion, who were drawn up in the square of Wellington Barracks when the "heavens opened." On the other hand, the 1st V.B. E.W. Surrey, which had an early inspection parade at Mitcham Barracks, passed a capital inspection under Colonel Hersey, commanding the 2nd Regimental District, in presence of a large company. In fact, the battalions which had fixed an early hour for their parade had decidedly "the best of it."

Much satisfaction is felt amongst the Liberal Unionists in Belfast and district at the appointment of Mr. J. D. Dunville, son of Mr. Robert G. Dunville, of Belfast, to the office of assistant private secretary to the Marquis of Hartington. Mr. Wyatt has held an inquiry respecting the death of William Parsons, aged 39 years, lately living at No. 55, Belgrave-road, Lambeth, who was found dead. The evidence of several witnesses went to show that the deceased had drunk heavily of spirits. On Friday, the 26th, he left his bed-room and drank some rum. Shortly after he again returned to his room, and was subsequently found lying across his bed-head. There was a bottle of rum near his right hand, and another bottle which had contained spirits lying near him. The jury, after hearing the medical evidence, returned a verdict of sudden death brought on by alcoholic drink.

At some of the platforms the speakers continued to address a small audience, but the rain, which had for some time been threatening to fall, came down in torrents, thus bringing the meeting to a sudden termination.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The metropolitan Volunteers had another very full programme of work to get through on Saturday, in addition to the events in which a number of them were engaged in the great Military Tournament. For the Artillery branch of the force there was driving drill for the H.A.C. in the Artillery Grounds, gun practice at Sheerness for the 2nd Middlesex Artillery, and at Tilbury Fort for the 2nd Kent; while in connection with the 1st Essex Artillery, the 13th Battery, recently raised at Southend underwent their annual inspection. The three Engineer battalions were to have had a brigade drill on Saturday in Regent's Park, but this was cancelled for the same reason that so many others have been cancelled, viz., the withdrawal of the compulsory clause with regard to these drills and of the trifling grant formerly allowed for attendance. Among the Infantry battalions the most important engagements were those of the St. George's Rifles, the 1st V.B. Royal Fusiliers, the Queen's Westminster Rifles, the 20th Middlesex (Artists), the 1st Surrey, and the 3rd London Rifles, who all had to pass the ordeal of official inspection. The London Scottish had many of its officers and men engaged in celebrating their national sports at the Scotch gathering, and several battalions had engagements of greater or less importance at the rifle butts, the most important being perhaps that of the 4th V.B. East Surrey Regiment which had its regimental shooting Saturday.

THE ARTISTS' RIFLES.

The earliest of the inspection parades was that of the Artists, who were drawn up in Hyde Park by five o'clock, to receive the inspecting officer, Colonel Stracey, commanding the Scots Guards, who arrived punctually, accompanied by his brigade major, Major Drummond, the regimental adjutant. Colonel Edis had under his command eight fine companies of his Artists, all carrying the Slade-Wallace equipment, minus the valise. The inspection commenced with a close scrutiny of the ranks, and then a march past, first in column, then in quarter column, and again at the double, the order being passed with credit, taking into consideration that the front of each company was rather long. The battalion went by eight companies of thirty-four files. The total muster, including cyclists, amounted to exactly 699 officers and men. After being put through the manual and firing exercise by Lieutenant-colonel Ridge, the commanding Colonel Edis, took up the command, and the battalion was put vigorously through a series of battalion movements, when the clouds, which had been hanging over throughout the drill, began to discharge their contents (at first gently), and, taking the hint, the brigadier dismissed the battalion, expressing much gratification.

THE QUEEN'S WESTMINSTER RIFLES.

On riding to another part of Hyde Park Colonel Stracey found drawn up on the Guards' drill ground a superb battalion of grey coats, standing in eleven strong companies, besides a detachment of men mounted on horses and another mounted on cycles. Colonel Howard Vincent was in command of the parade, seconded by Lieutenant-colonel Connerford, the total muster being one of 925 officers and men. After an inspection of the ranks, Colonel Stracey, finding the rain coming down with persistent virulence, promptly dismissed the regiment with a pretty compliment. He saw before him, he said, a very fine body of men, of whom he would have been glad to see more had the weather permitted. Without even a march past, the column was re-formed, and a start made for home by the Westminsters, one of the men falling down in the ranks just as the column was preparing to move off. There may not be the relation of cause and effect between two facts which have become more noticeable this year than at previous periods, among the Volunteers, but it seems undeniably to be the fact that since the new equipment was donned by the Volunteers there has been an increase in the number of cases of the kind just named. It is also undeniable that the new equipment is now here liked, but almost everywhere the subject of grumbling and complaints. The inconvenience of the arrangement of the kit, with the great coat at the base of the structure, was certainly illustrated, for in rain as pitiless as any which has for a long while been experienced, no man seemed to care to attempt to put on his great coat, even after being dismissed from parade, until a visit to the headquarters enabled him to get rid of the burden altogether for a time. To put on the coat out of doors, was, according to universal testimony, much too troublesome to be attempted. To many of the many battalions under arms for inspection was the rain more spiteful than to the St. George's Rifles, who were inspected by Colonel Sterling (Coldstream Guards) near the Alexandra Palace in Hyde Park. Colonel Stanley Bird was in command of six companies of all ranks, the total muster being 463 of all ranks. But little could be attempted beyond the march past, which was very steadily performed.

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Coroner Macdonald held an inquest at the Laurel Tree, Spitalfields, on the body of Mary Hughes, aged 42 years, who was found dead in a common lodging-house, No. 16, George-street, Spitalfields. Dr. Dukes, who was called after death, stated that the cause was due to coma, from Bright's disease, and this was the verdict of the jury.

Mr. Carttar received information of the death in the Seamen's Hospital, of William Wright, of 34, Blakeley Buildings, East Greenwich. The deceased and another man were on a scaffold, which gave way, at the South Metropolitan Gas Works. The other man, William Davis, was not so severely injured.

John Wilson, aged 36, a painter, of 10, Cape-road, Tottenham, has been surgically attended to at the German Hospital, Dalston. He was assisting to lower a ladder, when it fell upon him, fracturing his right ankle in two places. Ronald Otto, the attendant of the hospital, was assisting to remove the poor fellow into the ward, when he slipped and fell, receiving a compound fracture of the leg.

BORCH'S OILS clear out Rats, Mice, Beesches, Water Bugs, Fleas, Bed-bugs, Moths, Ants, Bed-jurts, Bed-lice, Lice, Cockroaches, Snakes, Scorpions, Wasps, Flies, Beetles, Moths, Wasps, Jack Rabbits, Squirrels, Tid, and Kingfishers, at Chemists.—J. NEWTON AND SONS, Agents, 1 King Edward-street, London, E.C.—(ADVT.)

STRANGE FREAK OF LONDON GIRLS.

Two girls, daughters of a gentleman residing at Hampstead, the other day left home, taking with them a favourite cat and booking by train to Redhill. There they walked about for some time, and made a few purchases, and then took train to Godstone. In the evening they repaired to the rectory, where they stated that they had been sent by their aunt in Aberdeen on a visit to a relative named Mrs. Allen. No such lady resided there, and no one of that name was known. The girls seemed to make themselves at home, and said they intended staying at the rectory, but the rector decided otherwise. He sent them to the police station, and Superintendent Bedford questioned them, and they still adhered to the statement they had previously told. He knew they were not telling the truth, and for a long time he could not get anything more out of them except the statement that their parents were dead. Eventually the younger of the two girls said they lived at Hampstead, and the next morning Superintendent Bedford wired to the police in the town. The parents were soon down at Godstone, and the girls were taken home. When asked the reason of their extraordinary behaviour, they said "they wished to have a little lark and see life."

THE FRAUDS ON THE DUKE OF FIFE.

On Saturday, at the Stratford Petty Sessions, Eliza Henry Lamb, a servant, of Palmerston-road, Walthamstow, was charged with obtaining various sums of money from the Duke of Fife by means of false pretences.

Mr. St. John Wontner prosecuted; Mr. Stevens Lewis defended.—It may be remembered that on the last occasion the Duke of Fife deposed that he received various letters from the defendant with reference to the needs of the "George Smith, of Coalville, Band of Love and Sympathy." Believing that the defendant was authorised as agent to Mr. George Smith, of whose philanthropic work he had a good opinion, his grace forwarded altogether £13 in six months. A further application led to a reference to the Charity Organisation Society, and it being found that though defendant was recognised as the agent for the Walthamstow branch of the society, but not authorised to collect moneys beyond the bounds of his district, these proceedings were taken.—Mr. Carthew, of the Charity Organisation Society, now said that, in consequence of letters sent to Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P., he called on the defendant, and made inquiries as to Clara Brown, who had signed a circular from the Pure Literature Society, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the meeting regretted that instead of acceding to so reasonable a request, the Government, after its own action in opening these institutions in Dublin and Edinburgh on Sunday without first consulting Parliament, should have referred the society to the House of Commons, where London was in question, was carried.

A further resolution was agreed to approving of the holding of a national conference in London in November next with the authorities of the many museums, galleries and libraries now open on Sundays in the United Kingdom, for the purpose of directing the attention of Parliament to the results which had attended such openings.

COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' SCHOOL PINNER.

Saturday was the annual prize day at the Commercial Travellers' School, Pinner, in which are maintained, clothed, educated some 300 boys and girls, who are the orphans of deceased or children of living necessitous commercial travellers. Alderman Sir James Whitehead, Bart., himself formerly a commercial traveller, presided over the proceedings, and Lady Whitehead distributed the prizes. The early part of the afternoon was occupied with a programme of part songs, well rendered by the children, who were also put through a short oral examination in French and German and in mental arithmetic, the examiner in the former subjects being Mr. R. H. Alpines, M.A., former pupil at the school, and in the latter by Mr. G. E. Buckley, the school examiner. Lady Whitehead then distributed the prizes, after which Sir James Whitehead delivered an address. He expressed his pleasure, as an old commercial traveller, at being present on this interesting occasion, and that though there might be cause for complaint between the defendant and Mr. George Smith, there was no case between the defendant and the Duke of Fife.—The bench, after consideration, came to the conclusion that the defendant had procured these charitable contributions by false pretences, and sentenced the prisoner to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour. They hoped the prosecution would prove a warning to others, for there was far too much indiscriminate giving of money, and commended the Charity Organisation Society for their action in this matter.

TEACHERS' GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The annual general meeting of the above Guild was held on Saturday afternoon at the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi. The chair was taken by the Rev. J. Percival (chairman of the council). The sixth annual report stated that the association was in a vigorous condition, much of the progress of the last twelve months being of a kind that could not be exhibited in statistics. During that period the council had received many proofs of the increased esteem in which the association is held both by teachers and the public, and had been thereby enabled to undertake work for which hitherto they had not felt sufficiently strong. The year had been eventful in bringing the guild into closer touch with other and older organisations of teachers, and in showing them that the guild was a body created, not to be in any way their rival, but rather their fellow-worker in the field of educational progress. The guild has now some 4,000 members, about half of whom were in the central guild and half in the different branches. The annual address was delivered by Dr. G. S. Laurie, professor of Education in the University of Edinburgh, the subject being, "Why should schoolmasters study the philosophy of mind?" and subsequently speech were delivered by Dr. G. E. Buckley, the school examiner. Lady Whitehead then distributed the prizes, after which Sir James Whitehead delivered an address. He expressed his pleasure, as an old commercial traveller, at being present on this interesting occasion, and that though there might be cause for complaint between the defendant and Mr. George Smith, there was no case between the defendant and the Duke of Fife.—The bench, after consideration, came to the conclusion that the defendant had procured these charitable contributions by false pretences, and sentenced the prisoner to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour. They hoped the prosecution would prove a warning to others, for there was far too much indiscriminate giving of money, and commended the Charity Organisation Society for their action in this matter.

MURDEROUS ATTACK UPON A POLICEMAN.

During the return of the visitors from Ascot races on the night of the 20th inst., Constable Plumb, of the Berkshire constabulary, stationed at the Crispin Inn, Winkfield, while in charge of a prisoner was murderedously assaulted by a man. The policeman was removed to the inn. Both ruffians escaped.

Coroner Macdonald held an inquest at the Laurel Tree, Spitalfields, on the body of Mary Hughes, aged 42 years, who was found dead in a common lodging-house, No. 16, George-street, Spitalfields. Dr. Dukes, who was called after death, stated that the cause was due to coma, from Bright's disease, and this was the verdict of the jury.

Mr. Carttar received information of the death in the Seamen's Hospital, of William Wright, of 34, Blakeley Buildings, East Greenwich. The deceased and another man were on a scaffold, which gave way, at the South Metropolitan Gas Works. The other man, William Davis, was not so severely injured.

John Wilson, aged 36, a painter, of 10, Cape-road, Tottenham, has been surgically attended to at the German Hospital, Dalston. He was assisting to lower a ladder, when it fell upon him, fracturing his right ankle in two places. Ronald Otto, the attendant of the hospital, was assisting to remove the poor fellow into the ward, when he slipped and fell, receiving a compound fracture of the leg.

BORCH'S OILS clear out Rats, Mice, Beesches, Water Bugs, Fleas, Bed-bugs, Moths, Ants, Bed-jurts, Bed-lice, Lice, Cockroaches, Snakes, Scorpions, Wasps, Flies, Beetles, Moths, Wasps, Jack Rabbits, Squirrels, Tid, and Kingfishers, at Chemists.—J. NEWTON AND SONS, Agents, 1 King Edward-street, London, E.C.—(ADVT.)

OPENING OF MUSEUMS ON SUNDAYS.

The annual meeting of the Sunday Society to obtain the opening of museums on Sundays was held yesterday afternoon at the Prince's Hall, Piccadilly, Professor G. J. Romanes the president, in the chair. The annual report stated that while the national museums and galleries in the metropolis still remained closed on Sundays the movement continued to make steady progress, important additions having been made during the year to the public institutions open on Sundays.—The president in his annual address said that our great national treasure houses of science, art, and literature were virtually closed to a large proportion of our fellow countrymen, for, speaking generally, Sunday was the only day in the week when labourers, artisans, factory hands, shopkeepers, clerks, and employees of all kinds were free to visit our museums, libraries, and galleries, not to mention the hard-working professional man. The society maintains that, besides being unfair, the existing state of things was both irrational and immoral—irrational, because no sound or valid reason could be given for this unreason of compelling industrious men to pay for the support of institutions in the benefits of which they were not allowed to participate; immoral, because the benefits thus derived were those of an educational kind, spiritually elevating in the case of our splendid artistic collections, as well as intellectually ennobling in that of our unequalled museums of science; and also because the closing of these gates against the masses was so far a swelling of the stream that flowed through the doors of our public-houses. Although he respected the class of sentiment out of which the spirit of Sabatianism arose, it was impossible for him to close his eyes to the patent historical fact, or to the less patent rational principle, that this spirit was alien alike to the Christian religion and to the dictates of any sound philosophy of life. As touching the purely secular side of the matter, he was not aware that any single opinion, which by the utmost stretch of courtesy could be regarded as an opinion of weight, could be quoted in opposition to their views. On the other hand, the society had upon its side the consensus of agreement by the most eminent men of every pursuit wherein eminence was attainable.—The report having been adopted, a resolution to the effect that, considering the facts and arguments adduced in the society's memorial to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the meeting regretted that instead of acceding to so reasonable a request, the Government, after its own action in opening these institutions in Dublin and Edinburgh on Sunday without first consulting Parliament, should have referred the society to the House of Commons, where London was in question, was carried.

THE EDUCATION OF THE DEAF.
Mr. Chamberlain, writing to a Belfast teacher of the deaf, says he holds the opinion that the joint system would be the wisest one to adopt, and that if action should be taken he is prepared to support that view in the House of Commons and elsewhere.

THE DANGERS OF TIP-CAT.

As the Duke and Duchess of Rutland were driving, a ball, thrown by a boy playing tip-cat, struck the duchess with great force in the eye, causing her much pain and almost blinding her. The sight was not affected, however, and she recovered in a short time.

TRAGEDIES IN PARIS.

According to telegram from Paris of the 29th inst., M. Victor Augustinowitz, Councillor of State of the Russian Empire, was shot dead in the Rue Bizet, where he alighted a short time ago with his daughter, who was seriously ill. The daughter died after undergoing an operation.

M. Angustinowitz, in a frenzy of despair at the loss of his child, immediately shot himself in the head with a revolver and expired in the wall. His daughter, M. Garde, the judge in instruction entrusted with the inquiry into the charge of attempted murder, was also shot dead. A Russian banker, M. Couturier, a retired officer, had been seriously wounded in the head by a bullet, and was desirous of changing five 1,000 mark notes, the banker, having read the story of the robbery, questioned him closely upon it. The man said he had not heard of the occurrence, but his demeanour betrayed his untruthfulness of the assertion. He was taken before a magistrate, where the merchant has greatly improved, and hopes are entertained for his recovery.

ACULPIT THROTTLES HIS GAOLER.

On Saturday, at the Stratford Petty Sessions, Elias Henry Lamb, a servant, of Palmerston-road, Walthamstow, was charged with obtaining various sums of money from the Duke of Fife by means of false pretences.

Mr. St. John Wontner prosecuted; Mr. Stevens Lewis defended.—It may be remembered that

THE POLICE AGITATION.

A Press Association states that a memorandum, marked "Confidential," in the possession of the Police Bill, 1890, was laid on Thursday night. It says the Police now before Parliament is the outcome of a series of efforts. The present Government have long had a Superannuation Bill in preparation, but its introduction has been delayed by the passing of the Local Government Act, 1888, which created a new financial authority and new police authority for the country. It was thought desirable that the new authorities should have time to consider the subject to become familiar with the financial condition of their offices before an improved superannuation scheme was presented. The time has now come, continues the memorandum, when the bill is largely founded on Mr. Fowler's bill of 1888. Its general effects may be concisely stated. At present all pensions, both in the metropolitan and provincial forces, are fixed at the discretion of the police authorities, but the bill gives to constables a right to pensions under certain defined conditions, and it gives them an appeal to a tribunal against the withholding or the reduction of their pensions for alleged misconduct. The duties and conditions of service in the various police forces differ so much, the document states, that the scale of ordinary pensions is left to be fixed by each police authority within the limits of a maximum and a minimum laid down in the bill, as no one would suit them all alike. The object of the bill has been to remove all ground for plaints of favouritism and partiality. The document states that the condition of age will not be imposed in the metropolitan police force, and that the "approved service" limit will leave a constable in the metropolitan force free to retire on pension at the early age of 46, but existing constables who were in the past allowed to commence their services before the age of 40 will not be subject to the limitation. The memorandum provides a tabular scale of pensions which will be proposed for the metropolitan police force under the bill, and shows in a tabulated form the additional advantages conferred by the bill upon the metropolitan force, and the drawbacks or disadvantages of the scheme proposed by the bill; and concludes with an admission that every existing police-constable in the metropolitan and provincial forces is free to decline the terms offered by the bill if the existing practice is more favourable to him.

A FEMALE FAGIN.

At the Aston (Birmingham) Police Court, Mr. Farmer, 9, and Clara Farmer, 13, living at 29, Adam-street, Birmingham, and Son, 15, Japanor, 21 court, 6 houses, Adam-street, Birmingham, were charged with stealing a purse containing money and other property of the value of £210. 2d., from the person of Ellen Smith, also with stealing a purse containing about £20, the property of Elizabeth Thomas. Catherine Clifford, married man, was charged with receiving £1. 6d. of the above money, knowing it to have been stolen. —Smith was leaving Aston Church on Sunday evening in question, when, from a girl in her, she followed the younger man, who was running away up Park-end. —Prosecutor missed her purse, and, on finding that she was being pursued, Emily Barnes threw the purse away, and was subsequently arrested by Police-constable Barnes. —When charged at the police station, prisoner made a statement which led to the arrest of the other two prisoners. When the three prisoners were remanded in custody, in consequence of what they had done, Police-constable Rogers charged them with stealing a purse, the property of Elizabeth Thomas. Emily admitted that she had taken the purse and gave it to Clara, and the last-named prisoner took Rogers and showed him where it was hidden on a piece of steel ground in Rocky-lane. —Lee, she added, received £9. 0d. on one occasion, and £7. 6d. on another. —When arrested Clifford said she supposed she would have to "put up with it." —The children stated that Clifford was in the habit of searching them when they returned to her house in the evening and taking money from them, while Detective Whitcroft said he had long known the woman as a person who was in the habit of training young children to act as pickpockets and as shoplifters. —Only recently, while out with one of her pupils, she narrowly escaped arrest. —Clifford, in answer to Mr. Bowlands, magistrates' answer, that she had received money from the children and was perfectly cognisant of the manner in which it was obtained. The girl Clara stated that when they handed in money Clifford always told them that, in the event of their being caught, they were not to mention her name. —Against Clifford there was a long list of previous convictions, and she was sentenced to three months' hard labour, and the other three prisoners were sentenced to twenty-one days' imprisonment each, to be followed by five years in a reformatory.

TERRIE ACCIDENT AT A PLEASURE GATHERING.

A fearful accident occurred the other evening at St. Jean, a little village situated on the Landesau in the neighbourhood of Brest. It was the annual fete, and, as usual on Midsummer Day, thousands of people had gone in the early morning to St. Jean in a number of steamers specially provided for the purpose. The weather was unusually fine, and the contingent of pleasure-makers was even larger than is generally the case. The holiday-makers lingered on at the scene until the shades of evening fell over the scene, warned them that it was time to return to Brest. An immense crowd assembled on the quay, and as each of the steamers drew up alongside they rushed on to a wooden footbridge about fifty yards in length, which was used for the embarkation and landing of passengers. In spite of remonstrances, they insisted on pushing forward. Suddenly a loud noise was heard, followed by cries of anguish. Yielding to the weight of the crowd, part of the wooden fabric had given way, hurling fully 100 men, women, and children into the river. Without a moment's hesitation two dozen brave fellows threw themselves into the water, for the purpose of rescuing the unfortunate people who were struggling to keep themselves on the surface, whilst a number of small boats were rowed at once to the scene of the disaster. The account given by eye-witnesses unite in representing the spectacle which presented itself as heartrending in the extreme. As the rescued persons were extricated from the water they were conveyed to a chateau hard by, the owner of which lavished every attention on them that kindness could suggest. Many of them were able to return afterwards to Brest, but some, being seriously indisposed, remained behind at the chateau. It was a touching sight to watch the crowd which had collected, mournful and anxious, on the pier at Brest, scanning eagerly the deck of each steamer as it arrived in search of relatives and friends, some of whom were never to return. One poor woman — the mother of one of the engineers who was killed in the recent accident on board the *Requin*, at Cherbourg — expired a short time after she had been taken out of the water, and, according to other accounts received, six other deaths have occurred. Divers are busily engaged in the search for other bodies.

THE STRANGE DEATH OF A BARRISTER'S WIFE.**Verdict of Wilful Murder.**

Evidence of the Lieutenant. Dr. George Danford Thomas resumed the inquiry at the Marylebone Coroner's Court, Paddington-street, Marylebone, on Wednesday, into the circumstances attending the death of Grace Ethel Hall, aged 29 years, the wife of Mr. Edward Marshall Hall, a barrister, whose death took place at Duke-street, Manchester-square, on the 30th ult., under singular circumstances. Dr. Albert Laermann, alias Viscount de Lermia, described as M.D. of Brussels University, stands recommended from Westminster Police Court, charged with having caused the death of the deceased by an illegal operation; whilst Lieutenant Raoul de Vimes de Pontieu, of the Bombay Staff Corps, is under remand for being an accessory before the fact.

MURKIN'S FIRST HEAR OF THE DOCTOR.
—Mr. Raoul de Vimes de Pontieu, having been duly cautioned by the coroner, said he desired to give evidence. He was a lieutenant in the Bombay Staff Corps, and resided at St. Leonards. He first formed the acquaintance of the deceased some months previous to her death. After a time he wished to take apartments, and did take some at 181, Berners-street. That was, he believed, on the 5th of May. Before this he had told him that she was anxious about herself. He then suggested that she should see a doctor, and he took her to Dr. Ventris. He described her to the doctor as his wife. They afterwards went to live at Berners-street, Oxford-street, at the house of Mrs. Grandt, whom he had previously met at the Alhambra. Mrs. Grandt was not told positively, he believed, of the condition of the deceased. Up to the time that he went to live at Berners-street he had not heard of Dr. Laermann, and there was no presence for saying so. He first heard of him on the 14th of May, when deceased told him he had been to Mrs. Grandt's doctor. Then he questioned Mrs. Grandt about him, and she told him he was a clever doctor, and kept his own brougham. He went to his club and looked up the directories. He afterwards went to Finsbury-road, and saw over the door, "White Lion Dispensary," and thinking Laermann was perhaps a respectable man, he offered no objection to the deceased going there.

THE VISIT TO THE DOCTOR.
—Next morning, when he was going out, Mrs. Grandt asked him to send a telegram to the doctor for her, which he did. It was as follows:—"Coming to-day with lady friend at 4 o'clock, according to promise." He signed Mrs. Grandt's name because the doctor did not know of his existence. On that day he and the deceased drove to Dr. Laermann's house, and deceased told him that she was going down to be examined. He did not go into the house, but waited outside for about a quarter of an hour. When she came out she appeared to be quite well. Mrs. Grandt asked them to give her a lift as far as Hyde Park Corner, which they did, getting out at that place. Afterwards they went home, and there the deceased told her that she would have to go to the doctor again. The day after that they moved to Duke-street, Manchester-square, deceased living there alone. The reason that they left the house in Berners-street was because he heard his family was coming to London, and he was supposed to live with them. He had not the slightest notion that the deceased was to undergo any operation, and he never intended not to undergo one. Deceased never told him she was to undergo an operation, and at no time did he consider it. —By the Coroner: At no time did either the deceased or Mr. Grandt inform him with what object the operation was performed. He had had some difficulty in finding out from Dr. Laermann what was the matter with the deceased during her illness, asked him to give him a ride in his brougham as far as Hyde Park. This he consented to do. On the way there he asked Dr. Laermann to tell him frankly what was the cause of deceased. —Hospedal, "Dysentery, pure and simple." She would, he said, be well a day or two. Continuing, witness said:—"I asked, 'What did you do to Mrs. Hall?' and he said, 'Nothing that any doctor would not do.' I was not satisfied with his replies. He said he would come up late the same night. Next morning, when I called on Mrs. Hall, she said the doctor had not been there the previous night, and I was annoyed, and I determined to get her own doctor.—Dr. Phillips told him what was the matter with her. I drove down to Dr. Laermann, thinking it only fair to tell him I was going to call in another doctor. His servant said he had been arrested, and I was not likely to see him for some time. I then went to Dr. Phillips with Mrs. Hall's card, asking him to come, and he came. Dr. Phillips said, 'I must tell you that Mrs. Hall is seriously ill. She has had an illegal operation performed,' and he added that there was danger of peritonitis setting in, and if anything happened to her he would have to refuse to give a certificate of death, that an inquest would be held, and my presence might be required. He asked me whether I understood the responsibility, and I said, 'Certainly; under the circumstances, of course I am bound to.' I gave him my card and address. I again went for Dr. Phillips, and found he was ill in bed; but he sent his assistant, Dr. Anfield Jones, who said she was in a dangerous state. I told him all I knew about the case, and that Mrs. Hall had undergone an operation without my knowledge. On the morning of the 30th I called at the office, and asked after "my sister," and the servant told me to be prepared for the worst.

PREPARED FOR THE WORST.
I was ordered abroad. When at Berlin I saw the inquest was adjourned for the production of an important witness. I felt that that was a reference to myself, and I afterwards discovered that I was required, and returned to England and reported myself at the coroner's office. Before leaving England I had consulted a solicitor as to my going. I was much attached to Mrs. Hall. I never had any discussion with her, or anybody else, as to procuring abortion. I paid Dr. Laermann £2. 00 for two visits, and Dr. Ventris, but I paid nothing else on account of her illness. I was arrested at St. Leonards —my home — a fortnight ago, and until now I have had no opportunity of making a statement. I was admitted to bail.—Detective-inspector Borner produced a cheque-book belonging to Mrs. Hall. He discovered that there had been a cheque on the London and County Bank on May 13th, 1890, "Pay self £20." It was signed by Mrs. Hall, who got it cashed herself. She received four £2 Bank of England notes in exchange for that cheque, three of which were traced to Dr. Laermann.—This was all the evidence, and the coroner proceeded to sum up, asking the jury to dismiss from their minds any question of morality or immorality. The questions for them to consider were whether the deceased went to Dr. Laermann for the purpose of having some operation performed on her to procure abortion; and, secondly, whether Dr. Laermann actually performed an operation which resulted in her death. As to the payment of £20, he pointed out that it was not likely a lady would pay that amount to a doctor merely for examination with a view to ascertaining her condition. In conclusion, he pointed out that there did not appear to be any evidence by which Lieutenant de Pontieu could be criminally connected with the case.—The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Albert Laermann, abstaining from any expression of opinion as to Lieutenant de Pontieu.

(Further details will be found on page 1.)

ALARMING RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

At Oughtibridge, near Sheffield, on Thursday morning an alarming accident occurred on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln Railway. A goods train was being shunted into a siding to allow a passenger train to pass, when the couplings of one of the wagons broke, and the loaded trucks ran down the incline at a furious rate, dashing against a stop-block, and smashing that and the supports of a footbridge to atoms. Fortunately no one was hurt. A breakdown gang was soon at work clearing the lines, which were blocked.

BAZAAR AT BETHNAL GREEN.

A bazaar and parochial exhibition of East-end arts, crafts, and curiosities are in course of progress at Oxford Hall, Bethnal Green. The object of the undertaking is to provide a new organ for the church of St. Simon Zeotis, situated in Morpeth-street, and there is every indication that this object will be attained. Some of the exhibits are exceedingly interesting, and reflect great credit on the artisans of the district. In the local section several valuable paintings are on view, including two sent by Mr. Harry H. Marks, L.C.C. ("The Wide, Wide World," and "Murther Water"). The proceedings are undistinguished patronage, including that of the Duchess of Loods, the Dowager Countess of Shrewsbury, and Lady Elizabeth Bladuph. The exhibition (in which most of the representative trades of Bethnal Green are seen in actual work), will remain open till the close of the week.

THE COLONIAL INSTITUTE CONVERSATION.

There was a large assemblage at the conversations given by the president and council of the Royal Colonial Institute in the Natural History Museum, the guests numbering between two and three thousand. Among those present were the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Lord and Lady Knutsford, Lord and Lady Sherburne, Lord and Lady Sinclair, Lady Frere, Sir John Lubbock, M.P., and Lady Lubbock, Sir Frederick Brumwell, Sir Richard Webster, M.P., and Sir George G. Stoke, M.P. Some surprise was created by the appearance at the gathering of an enormous number of policemen and firemen in uniform. So numerous were the former that, if it had been suggested that the guests were being "shadowed," the assumption would have seemed not altogether unreasonable. During the evening the bands of the Coldstream Guards and the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) played selections of music. A notable illustration was afforded to the respective merits of electricity and gas for lighting public buildings on such occasions. The west wing, being lighted by electricity, was comparatively cool, while in the other parts of the building, which were lighted by gas, the heat was intense.

SAMUEL ALSSOPP AND SONS.

Lord Hindlip presided on Thursday at an adjourned extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in Samuel Alssopp and Sons, Limited, which was held in the great hall of the Cannon-street Hotel, for the purpose of considering the report of the committee of investigation presented to the stockholders at the special meeting held on June 12th last. There was a large attendance. The report stated that the committee was appointed for the purpose of reporting upon the formation of the company, and the trading position and prospects of the business before and after its formation. The committee stated that they had made an exhaustive examination as to the instigation of fraud or misrepresentation made against the vendors and directors. They found nothing of the kind could be substantiated and they had thought it right to inform the directors of the fact. The committee regretted, however, to find from their inquiries into the allotment of shares that Messrs. Alssopp and Sons, by the arrangement they made with the London and Westminster Bank, virtually gave the latter the control of the allotment. In adopting this course the committee considered that Messrs. Alssopp and Sons committed a very grave and serious error in judgment, giving great offence to the trade customers, to whom a very disappointing proportion of shares was allotted, and some of whom, in return, declined to sell Alssopp's beers. The committee had made it their business to inspect the property of the company at Burton-on-Trent, and had pieced in reporting that in their opinion the breweries and maltings, &c. were a splendid and very valuable property.—Lord Hindlip, in opening the proceedings, called upon Mr. Thomas Cunningham, the chairman of the committee, to address the meeting. This he accordingly did, and urged the shareholders to pull together to prevent any disruption of the good old business in which they were interested. The only desire of the committee was to protect the interest of the shareholders, and to prevent the business drifting into a wrong channel. He moved a resolution approving the report of the committee of investigation; and whilst urging the directors to give their special attention to the points contained therein, and to use their powers to raise the additional capital required, hoped that the vendors would see their way to continue the financial assistance which they had already afforded the company during the past year.—Mr. T. Casey seconded the motion, and a long and animated discussion ensued, in the course of which Mr. Jefferies (of Ipswich) accused the committee of having been "got at," and said that the greater portion of the time of the visit of the committee was occupied in hospitality. (Noise.) He moved, as an amendment, that the meeting was of opinion that the sum charged by the vendors for the goodwill was excessive, and that they should reserve their rights to a dividend until 5 per cent. had been paid to the ordinary shareholders.—Mr. S. Oppenheim seconded the amendment.—Mr. John Davies, of Manchester, complained that the vendors had sold their ordinary shares. The chairman said he had done so, but the other vendors had not.—Mr. Davies moved a second amendment that the directors should guarantee a dividend of 5 per cent. to the ordinary shareholders for three years.—This was seconded by Mr. Thomas Phelps, of London.—Mr. Robert Henderson, who spoke amid great interruption, criticised the statements made by the chairman at the early meetings.—Mr. R. A. Robinson appealed to the directors to say what they were prepared to do to men of honour and wealth to assist the company. This statement was received with prolonged expressions of dissatisfaction. Mr. Robinson said the conduct of the directors was unworthy of a great name and the interests of the company. It would be better if the Alssopp's left them and allowed them to get other directors. (No, and cheer.)—The chairman said the directors declined to guarantee any dividend whatever, and therefore it was idle to put the amendment.—Mr. Davies' amendment in favour of a dividend of 5 per cent. being carried by a large majority. Mr. Cunningham demanded a poll, and was received with cries of "ought to be." A scene of considerable confusion followed, and one of the speakers called a director a liar. It was stated that Mr. Bradford had been elected on the board.

A Dalziel telegram from Philadelphia says

it is rumoured that the object of Mr. Austin Corbin's (Reading Rail) trip to Europe is to confer with an English syndicate regarding a new line of rapid transit steamers sailing from Philadelphia.

REMARKABLE OCCURRENCE AT EASTBOURNE.

A remarkable occurrence is reported from Eastbourne. A tradesman, named Wilken, was found on Thursday in the Commercial-road with several French nails driven deep into the top of his head. He was removed to the Eastbourne Memorial Hospital, where he remained in a critical condition. It is supposed that he had attempted to commit suicide.

ARREST ON AN ATLANTIC LINER.

A young man named Henry Maenning, of Dublin, was arrested on board the White Star steamer Majestic on Thursday by Detective-sergeant McGuire on its arrival at Queenstown, charged with cattle stealing. He was about to proceed to New York having a steerage passage by the vessel.—He was remanded pending arrival of an escort to convey him to Dublin.

A VIOLENT LUNATIC.

At the Peckham House Private Lunatic Asylum an inquiry was held into the death of Joseph Trouze, aged 73 years.—The daughter said he had been for the past nine months a raving lunatic, and it was dangerous for any one to be with him. When witness was with the nurse attending to the deceased, he suddenly sprang out of bed, and made a desperate blow at the nurse. He did not hit her, however, and the force of the blow caused him to lose his balance. He fell heavily, striking his right side against a piece of furniture. He was removed the next day from his home in Peckham to the above asylum, where he died. —Dr. Findlay Marchison said death was due to acute pneumonia, one lung being gangrenous and the other much diseased. He thought the fractures to the ribs had been caused by accident. They had caused shock to the system.—Verdict accordingly.

ROYAL VISIT TO THE ALBERT DOCKS.

The Prince and Princess of Wales on Tuesday afternoon embarked on a steamer at Westminster, and proceeded down the river to the Albert Docks, where they landed, and opened a new branch of the Seamen's Hospital Society. The Duke of Edinburgh, president of the institution, presented an address to the prince, who, in reply, expressed his gratification at being present and his interest in the society, which he remarked had been the means of relieving 300,000 patients. The princess received a number of purses in aid of the society, and consented to allow one of the wards to be named the Alexandra Ward. Before returning to town the prince and princess attended a garden party given by Lady Wolseley at Greenwich.

NARROW ESCAPE OF PRINCE FERNAND.

A denial is given by Reuter's agency to the statement that Prince Ferdinand had suddenly and mysteriously left Sofia for Vienna. A further telegram from Sofia states that while Prince Ferdinand was crossing the river on Tuesday from one point of Rustchuk to another, on board the steamer Kroum during a thunderstorm, the mast was struck by lightning. The prince was standing on the deck of the ship when the mast struck him, and although he did not seem to have sustained other injuries, he died some days later, his death having, it is alleged, been accelerated by the incident in the Mile End-road. —Prince Ferdinand had been expected on Wednesday at St. Petersburg, where M. Stambouloff had previously arrived.

BY WAY OF A LARK.

George Martin, 19, was indicted at the Old Bailey for the manslaughter of Susan Rebecca Stradwick.—The deceased, an old lady, was passing along the Mile End-road on the evening of the 13th ult., when the prisoner, "by way of a lark," struck her two or three times in the face with a plaiice. Her nose bled, and although she did not seem to have sustained other injuries, she died some days later, her death having, it is alleged, been accelerated by the incident in the Mile End-road. —Prince Ferdinand pleaded guilty to unlawfully wounding, and Mr. Justice Grantham postponed sentence.

SINGULAR BETTING TRANSACTION.

At the West Ham Police Court, Edward Mills, a commission agent, of 10, Southwell Grove-road, Leytonstone, was charged with obtaining various sums of money by false pretences from Joshua William Dowle, a butcher, of Angel-lane, Stratford.—Prosecutor said that on Easter Monday he gave the defendant £3 to put on the horse flex. The horse won, but though several times asked for the money Mills did not pay it. Some time afterwards defendant told him that he had put £2 at 20 to 1 on Sainsbury for the Derby, and asked him (Dowle) to go to the racecourse. Dowle produced a paper which Dowle thought was the voucher. On June 4th the Derby was run. Sainsbury won, and they were entitled to £24, of which the accused was to have £20 and Dowle £2. On June 6th the participants at Mr. Ponsonby's, at Leytonstone, and defendant, when spoken to about the voucher, said it was at home, and that "it was all right." He went home and got the "voucher," and after that, the same day, he asked for £5, and then £10, and in the evening £20, on account of the £20 due to him out of the Sainsbury transaction. On the following Friday they met again at Ponsonby's, and the defendant produced another form, he put the two into a registered envelope, and addressed it to Edward Mills, commission agent, Boulogne-sur-Mer. —F. J. Wallis, commission agent, Boulogne-sur-Mer, France. They went together to the Harrow Green Post Office. Dowle paid the postage of the letter, and defendant the postage of the registered letter addressed to Wallis at Boulogne. On the Friday after the post office was detached Mills got another £2 on account of his half of the money due and, the same day he said he wanted £2 for a soldier's fee, and when Dowle protested Mills said he seemed to be greatly afraid, and assured him that his letter and cheque would be safe with him on the Monday. That £2 was advanced. On the Tuesday Dowle received a telegram from Ludgate Circus: "Dowle, care of Mills.—Letter and cheque follow.—Wallis, Anderton's Hotel." Mills afterwards asked for that telegram, and when it was refused he said he would get a copy of it from the Post Office. The following morning Mr. Dowle received a letter with the print "J. Wallis" and dated from Anderton's Hotel. This ran as follows:—"I am in receipt of Mr. Mill's registered letter, together with voucher. He must be fully aware that he is not entitled to the bet, as at the time of making it he was indebted to me £2. However, to save unpleasantness, if he will forward me a receipt in full for £20 I will send cheque for that amount on hearing from him. I do not feel inclined to do more."

J. WALLIS, pro J. W.—I am leaving for France this morning."—Subsequently Mr. Dowle received through the Dead Letter Office the registered letter sent to Wallis at Boulogne-sur-Mer, which, on being opened, was found to contain simply two slips of paper.—Prosecutor was cross-examined at considerable length with the view of eliciting that he had had numbers of betting transactions, and that this one was simply part of a running account.—Mr. Bagshawe said the hearing would doubtless occupy a long time, and after some discussion he adjourned the case for a week.

LAST WEEK'S LAW INTELLIGENCE.

DAMAGES FOR PERSONAL INJURIES.
GILBERT V. AVISS.—In the Court for the Consideration of Crown Cases Reserved, before Mr. Justice Mathew and a special jury, the plaintiff, a timber merchant of Putney, sued for damages in respect of personal injuries sustained by the former by reason of the alleged negligence on the part of the servants of the defendant. The latter denied every negligence, and alleged that the plaintiff was himself to blame. Mr. Percy Gye was the plaintiff's counsel, and Mr. Ruegg was for the defendant.—According to the plaintiff's case, he went to the defendant's yard in August last to get some boards, entering the yard at the invitation of the defendant's foreman, and that while the boards were being looked out by himself and a workman at a particular stack of timber, another stack, in consequence of defective stacking, fell upon them, injuring both his legs, one of which was broken. The case for the defendant was that the plaintiff was in the yard not by the invitation of the defendant or his servants, but in the face of a notice exhibited on a board warning people, in case of accidents, not to go into the yard, and that it was through his own handling of the timber and not through defective stacking that the stack fell upon him and caused the injuries complained of. A bond bearing the notice referred to was produced in court, but the plaintiff said he had not seen it. One of his witnesses, asked by Mr. Ruegg in cross-examination, if he saw a notice replied, "Yes." "You did?" "Yes; but the only notice I saw was 'Smoking strictly prohibited.'—Both sides having been heard, Mr. Justice Mathew summed up, and the jury retired for some time to deliberate, the result being a verdict for the plaintiff for £75.—His lordship gave judgment for the plaintiff, with costs, but, on the application of the defendant's counsel, stayed execution in view of an appeal.

RACECOURSE COMPANY WOUND UP.
IN RE THE EAST RIDING CLUB AND RACECOURSE COMPANY (LIMITED).—An order was made June 7th last, on a creditor's petition, to wind up the company, but the order was not to be drawn up for a fortnight.—Mr. V. Smith and Mr. Macnaghten, for the petitioners, asked in the Chancery Division that the order might go.—Mr. Eve, for the company, asked for extension of time to enable the company to sell the racecourse as a going concern.—M. Edgar, B. Pymar and Mr. Marley appeared for creditors.—Mr. Justice Kay said he could not extend the time except by consent, and the order must go.

SEQUEL TO THE COCK STRIKE.
FENWICK AND CO. V. HOWARD BROTHERS AND OTHERS.—The plaintiffs in this case (in the Queen's Bench Division) were owners of the steamship *Eva*, which in August last was chartered by the defendants to bring timber from Gofia in the Baltic to the Surrey Commercial Dock. Soon after the vessel arrived the great dock strike occurred, and there was delay in unloading. The plaintiff sued to recover under the charter £35 a day for ten days' demurrage; and they also claimed that same daily payment for nineteen days' detention of the vessel beyond that period. The charters provided that the cargo was to be brought to and taken alongside the ship at the merchant's risk and expense, and that the cargo was to be loaded and discharged as fast as the steamer could receive and deliver in the customary way. The delay occurred in consequence of the dock strike, and the principal question was who was to suffer the loss. There were, however, a number of subsidiary questions. From the commencement of the strike the lightermen in the barges refused to work. The sailors, however, were not on strike, but there was a question as to whether they were ready and willing to deliver the timber. When they telegraphed to their union in the north, they were told that they might use their own discretion in the matter. If they were willing to work, they were only nineteen, and could not, of course, have delivered as speedily as the sixty stavedores who had been engaged for the ship. They were not, however, willing to stow the timber in the barges, and there was a question as to whose duty it was to do this. The shipowners said that they had only to put the timber overboard, whilst the shipowners said that it was also their duty to stow it in the barges that were alongside.—The jury, having considered the matter for a few minutes, gave a verdict for the defendants.

EXTRAORDINARY DIVORCE CASE.
BETHUNE V. BETHUNE.—This was a petition by the wife. On her behalf Sir Charles Russell said the respondent admitted the adultery alleged, but he denied the cruelty. He had also taken the unusual course of justifying his answer. The cruelty alleged was not of a violent physical description, but it consisted of such conduct and the use of such expressions as eventually caused the petitioner to leave the respondent and institute the present proceedings. The respondent at the time of marriage had an estate in Scotland called Balfour; but it was deeply mortgaged, and prior to the wedding a deed of settlement was made, by which the respondent became entitled to £1,000 at the death of the petitioner, she by the deed having the absolute disposal of her own property. The cruelty, as he had said, was not personal violence to any great extent, and was confined to one personal act, when the respondent gave the petitioner a push which sent her to the ground; but the mental distress she suffered from the conduct of the respondent, in the opinion of Dr. Quain and Dr. Broadbent, justified the present petition. The adultery alleged was that the respondent for some time, without the knowledge of the petitioner, cohabited with Madame de Mar, whom, it was said, he kept as his mistress.—Mrs. Isabelle Bethune said her maiden name was Goldsmith. She was married to the respondent, Mr. Charles Congleton Bethune, in 1856. He was a gentleman of no employment. Prior to the marriage a settlement was made by which he had £1,000 per annum out of her property. After the marriage he paid debts of his to the extent of £4,000. They lived entirely out of her income. Following the marriage they went to Scotland, and after some time they came to London and stayed at the Grand Hotel. The respondent did not occupy the same sleeping apartment as she did; and when she spoke to him about it, he said that he could only sleep alone. Up to April, 1856, the marriage was never consummated. After that they travelled about, but the respondent always insisted on their having separate rooms. While at Balfour, on one occasion, she went to his bed-room to remonstrate with him on his conduct, and he then gave her a violent push, which caused her to fall to the ground. She complained that matter to her mother the day after. On their return to Bryanston-squared the respondent left her. He told her he was to be in the same room with her, and that:

HE HATED THE SIGHT OF HER.
He gave no reason for such conduct beyond saying that he hated her presence, as it made his life a hell. He used frequently to receive letters in a lady's handwriting, and when she inquired from whom they came he told her they were from an old friend; and when she asked who this friend was he replied that it was no business of hers. Some time after that she saw a money order in favour of a Madame de Mar. Petitioner

said who the lady was, and he said she was an old friend in trouble. He got angry, and left the house. He had often threatened to leave her prior to that. She did her best to please the respondent, as she was very fond of him. His conduct affected her health. She cried very much and was sleepless. She consulted Dr. Quain and Dr. Broadbent in 1857, and after that she and respondent went to Ems. They there occupied separate rooms. In 1858 the respondent went to Ems, alone as far as she knew, but after that he went to Australia. She had cleared the estate of Balfour of mortgage and debt, and that had cost her between £16,000 and £17,000.—Mrs. Goldsmith, the mother of the petitioner, corroborated the evidence of the petitioner as regarded the conduct of the respondent. Charlotte Peat said she formerly was in the service of Madame de Mar, at North Bank, Regent's Park. A gentleman used to visit madame. He was called "Charley." He came frequently and occupied the same room as her mistress. She had seen the gentleman and madame in the same bed.—Charles Peter Barrett said he lived at Lanark Villa, Maida Vale. Madame de Mar had taken apartments in his house. She was visited by a gentleman known as Mr. Charles. He came to the house in 1857. The person spoken to as "Charley" and "Mr. Charles," was identified by photographs as the respondent, Mr. Charles Congleton Bethune.—Dr. Quain and Dr. Broadbent gave evidence proving the serious condition of the petitioner arising from the cruel treatment of the respondent.—His lordship considered the evidence, with that of the medical witnesses, sufficient, and he granted a decree nisi for the dissolution of the marriage as prayed.

HAZARDOUS SPECULATION.

R. E. A. AND J. STEWART.—This failure occurred in March, 1857, the bankrupts trading as timber merchants, in Fenchurch-street, City, and at New Brunswick. It appears that proofs have been put in for £192,892, and that a dividend of 3s. 4d. in £ has been paid. The bankrupts recently applied for their discharge, and judgment was now given in the Bankruptcy Court.—His honour said the hearing had occupied eighteen days, and it could not have well been abridged, having regard to the complicated nature of the case and the voluminous matters with which the court had to deal. The bankrupts' course of trading was impeached upon various grounds, it being alleged that they had been guilty of rash and hazardous speculation, of trading with knowledge of insolvency, and other offences. Charges of fraud were also made. The failure was most disastrous for the creditors, and the bankrupts' course of trading was unjustifiable, but at the same time he was glad to be able to acquit the bankrupts of all charges of fraud. Their discharge would be suspended for five years from July, 1859, when the application was set down for hearing.

LAST WEEK'S POLICE.

Mansion House.

ANNOTATING A HUSBAND.—Ellen Stuart Grey, a well-dressed respectable-looking young woman, was brought before Alderman Sir A. Lusk charged with being drunk and annoying her husband at his place of employment in Farringdon-street.—From the evidence of the husband, who appeared to be a very respectable man, about the same age as the defendant, he had been for nineteen years in the service of a firm in the City, and he had been married to the defendant for several years, and they had four children. Latterly they had disagreed, and in the course of last year they mutually agreed to separate, and a deed was drawn up by which he undertook to pay her a certain sum weekly, and she, on her part, undertook not to annoy him or cause him to be annoyed in any manner. She had broken the agreement by coming to his employers and creating a disturbance, and on Friday afternoon she came, very drunk, and made a great noise and disturbance, and as he could not get her to go away quietly, he was obliged to give her into custody. The complainant added that he took the charge of the children, and paid the defendant's allowance regularly, and he was in peril of losing his situation in consequence of the annoyance that the defendant's conduct occasioned to his employer.—Sir A. Lusk asked the defendant what answer she had to make to the charge of annoying her husband?—The defendant, in reply, was about to make a statement of her matrimonial grievances, and she denied that she was drunk.—Sir A. Lusk said he was not going to enter upon a discussion of the differences that existed between her and her husband. She had made a bargain not to annoy or interfere with him, and she had no right to break the agreement she had entered into. Her husband seemed to be a very respectable, well-conducted man, and he could not help saying it was very cruel of her to go and create a disturbance at the place where he was employed, and the consequence possibly might be that he would lose his situation. He ordered her to enter into a recognisance to keep the peace for three months, and if she acted in the same way again she would be liable to be sent to prison.

Guildhall.

STEALING FROM A ROOF.—Samuel Walker, 24, and George Williams, 27, labourers, were charged on remand with stealing a quantity of sheet lead from the roof of a house in Sun-street, Bishopsgate, belonging to the Great Eastern Railway Company.—In consequence of information received Detective Abbott instructed a constable to keep watch in the house in question, which is in the course of demolition. About six o'clock in the evening the prisoners with another man were seen to enter through a window and make their way on to the roof. When they commenced tearing off the lead roofing, "They were about to leave, when the constable came from where he had been concealed and arrested Walker, who had two pieces of lead folded up, and weighing 65lb., in two pockets which he had in his coat. He called for assistance. Williams escaped, and the third man jumped from the first floor window, a distance of 13ft., and also effected his escape. Williams was arrested next morning. He had had his moustache shaved off.—Mr. Alderman Newton said it was evident that the prisoners made a living by that sort of thing. They would both have to go to prison for one month with hard labour.

Marlborough-street.

ILL-TREATING A MOTHER.—Wm. Mitchell, a rough-looking young fellow, a carman, was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt as a lunatic at large in Westminster Abbey.—Constable A. deposed that between eight and nine (Saturday) morning he was on plain clothes duty in the abbey, when the prisoner, attired as he appeared before his worship in a light suit, mounted the pulpit, and, pronouncing a Bible, said he was there to preach a sermon. Witness had a difficulty to get him out of the pulpit, and, dunting his sanity, locked him up.—In answer to the magistrate, the officer said that there were only a few persons the abbey at the time. Dr. Robert William Jones, of Vauxhall Bridge-road, said prisoner was of unsound mind, and had delusions on religious matters.—The wife of the accused, who appeared greatly affected, said her husband had been five times in an asylum, and his periods of madness were always cha-

acterised by religious enthusiasm. He imagined he was Moses, and that his mission was to convert people.—Vince, the assistant-gaoler, mentioned that the man had a Bible in his pocket, and told him that once he was Moses, but he was not so sure about it now.—Prisoner: I think I am still.—Mr. D'Eyncourt directed that he should be removed to another gaol.

Thames.

A SINGULAR ARRANGEMENT.—Inspector Bridgeman attended the court with two persons with regard to the protection of a beer-house.—In answer to Mr. Mead, one of the parties, named Robert Palmer, said he was in possession of the house, and he had been drawing beer and selling it. As he owed the brewers money he paid it over to them.—Mr. Mead said he wanted to know whose liquor was being sold, and was informed it was the brewers. Mr. Mead said the brewers were not licensed to sell.—A gentleman used to visit the brewers said Palmer was in their debt, and they took the money and credited it to him.—Mr. Mead said it was an extremely strange arrangement. What he required in these cases was that the person selling should be licensed. Witness ascertained that he had been brought from his home at Battersea by his mother and other relatives, who invoked the assistance of two strange men to prevent him effecting his suicidal purpose. They pulled him back with considerable difficulty. In the cell prisoner had to be watched to prevent him knocking his head against the wall. Accused said he had no desire to live, as he was only an encumbrance to his friends and his country.—In reply to the magistrate the prisoner said he had been ill for two years. At Tuesday evening witness found that his father had hanged himself. He believed "he must have lost his head, as he always condemned suicide."—Other evidence showed that on Tuesday evening, during the absence of the deceased's son and daughter, Parsons had suspended himself by the neck by means of a rope attached to the banisters of the stairs. One of the lodgers in the house thus found him and cut him down.—Dr. Morgan, police surgeon, who was at once summoned, deposed that life was extinct on his arrival, and death was due to strangulation.—The coroner remarked that doubtless the deceased had been driven to take his life by the physical suffering he had to endure.—The jury returned a verdict of suicide while of unsound mind.

ROBBING A SHIPOWREN.—William Rogers, a steward, was charged with stealing a coat, four capes, knives, boots, and other articles, the property of James Chitham, shipowner.—The prosecutor said he lived at Bromley-street, Stepney. On the 13th he had a number of articles on board the Volante, lying in Millwall Dock, and he missed them on Friday. Information he went on board the Mary, lying in the same dock, the prisoner having alighted on board as a cook, and in a box he found the articles produced, which he identified as his property.—George Thorpe, assistant to James Nathan, High-street, Poplar, said he produced an overcoat pledged on 14th of June by a person who gave the name of Wm. Rogers, but he was unable to identify the prisoner.—The prosecutor was called, and identified the overcoat as his property.—Mr. Mead sentenced the prisoner to three months' hard labour.

Worship-street.

WATCH SNATCHING.—Michael O'Connor, 20, a waiter, was charged with having stolen from the person of John Evan Tibbs a portion of a gold chain.—The prosecutor, an elderly gentleman, living at Walthamstow, said that at half-past one o'clock that afternoon when in Fenton-street, Shoreditch, the prisoner suddenly snatched his watch-chain, breaking a piece off it. The watch remained in the pocket. The prisoner ran away with a portion of the chain, and he (prosecutor) pursued. He saw the suspect taken up by others, but lost sight of him. Continuing the chase, however, he presently saw that the prisoner was in custody, and charged him.—Corroborative evidence was given by a lad, who used Whitechapel vernacular, and said he saw the "bloke" (indicating the prisoner) "sneak" the gent's watch-chain and pass it to a "pal."—Police-constable 307 G said that he stopped the prisoner, whom he saw running, and detained him until the prosecutor arrived. The latter was "20 minutes," said the constable, before he was able to speak. It was said that the prisoner had only recently been released from gaol, after serving a sentence of twelve months for a similar offence.—Mr. Montagu Williams ordered a remand for proof of previous conviction.

"MEN WERE DECEIVERS EVER."—William Prior was brought up on a warrant by Police-constable Bottomley, an officer of the court, charged with assaulting his wife. The wife appeared about 45 years of age, and the age of the prisoner was given as 71. He was described as an inmate of St. Luke's Workhouse, and the wife said she had a mantle-maker's business. Her husband, she declared, left her and went to the workhouse because he would not work. The prisoner said she led him such a life that he was glad to get away and sit in the parish poor-house. The assault alleged was a blow in the side, but the prisoner declared his wife took up a knife to him. He had left the workhouse, not to visit her, but to see his boy, and she turned the boy against him, and brought him up now as a witness of the assault.—The wife said she had been separated five times, and when she married the prisoner eighteen years ago, he put himself down as 31, and now he was 70.—Mr. Montagu Williams: "Ah! Men were deceivers ever."

In the end the magistrate thought that a judicial separation would be better than a vagrant absences, and sentenced the prisoner to an hour's imprisonment in the cells till the end of the court day, and pronounced a judicial separation, with alimony to the wife at the rate of 2s. 6d. per week.

North London.

CHARGE AGAINST A TRAVELLER.—William Marsh, 29, a traveller, of Millfield-road, Clapton was charged with disorderly conduct and assaulting three police-constables.—Police-constable 410 J (Tuttle) said that at half-past one o'clock that morning he saw the prisoner with a woman, sitting on a seat at the Millfields, Clapton. Witness asked the prisoner what he was doing there, and the latter used a disgusting expression, and was about to frequent the Kempton Park races.—The case now coming on, Mr. Geoghegan took objection to the charge of "frequenting," and quoted several judgments which he had clearly laid down that where a person was so charged he must be proved to have habitually resorted for the purpose of committing a felony.—Inspector Harvey said Detective-sergeant Nicholls was on his way to the receipt of a communication from the London and South Western Railway Company, Detective sergeant Nicholls and Cumber were instructed to keep observation upon the Waterloo Railway Station with a view to clearing the place of cardsharps and pickpockets. Hardy, whom Nicholls described as a most notorious and expert cardsharp, was seen to attempt to pick the pockets of several gentlemen leaving for the Kempton Park races.—On the case now coming on, Mr. Geoghegan took objection to the charge of "frequenting," and quoted several judgments which he had clearly laid down that where a person was so charged he must be proved to have habitually resorted for the purpose of committing a felony.—The injured man was stabbed in the right side.—Mr. Slade: Have you anything to say why you should not be remanded?—Prisoner: Well, I did it. I did not think I hurt him so much. He struck me.—Mr. Slade: You will be remanded for a week.

THE MOST EXPERT CARD SHARPER IN LONDON.

—Edward Colley, 61, Samuel Cressy, 58, and Ben Hardy, 43, were charged on remand with frequenting the Waterloo Railway Station for the purpose of committing a felony. Mr. Geoghegan appeared for Colley and Cressy, and Mr. Keith Frith for Hardy. The facts of the case have already been reported. Owing to the receipt of a communication from the London and South Western Railway Company, Detective sergeant Nicholls and Cumber were instructed to keep observation upon the Waterloo Railway Station with a view to clearing the place of cardsharps and pickpockets. Hardy, whom Nicholls described as a most notorious and expert cardsharp, was seen to attempt to pick the pockets of several gentlemen leaving for the Kempton Park races.—On the case now coming on, Mr. Geoghegan took objection to the charge of "frequenting," and quoted several judgments which he had clearly laid down that where a person was so charged he must be proved to have habitually resorted for the purpose of committing a felony.—The injured man was stabbed in the right side.—Mr. Slade: Have you anything to say why you should not be remanded?—Prisoner: Well, I did it. I did not think I hurt him so much. He struck me.—Mr. Slade: You will be remanded for a week.

Southwark.

A MAN STABBED IN BLACKFRIARS-ROAD.—Charles Hughes, 19, described as a printer, was charged before Mr. Slade, with feloniously stabbing a man named George Smith.—Inspector Sennett, of the L Division, stated that the injured man was confined to the hospital, and upon telling the prisoner the charge, he said, "Yes; quite right. I did it, and threw the knife away." The injured man had been severely stabbed in the right side.—Mr. Slade: Have you anything to say why you should not be remanded?—Prisoner: Well, I did it. I did not think I hurt him so much. He struck me.—Mr. Slade: You will be remanded for a week.

the last occasion it was mentioned that the vicar had no desire to press the charge, but the magistrate declined to allow it to be withdrawn. The boy took the things home, and stated that he had found them. The father, however, did not believe him, and when arrested, told the officer that he hesitated to take the property to the station, fearing that he might by this action place the son in jeopardy.—Mr. Brooks, churchwarden of St. Philip's Church, attended, and gave the father an excellent character.—Mr. Denman discharged Green, remanded Montague, sent Appleby, the younger, to fourteen days' imprisonment, and ordered the father to enter into recognisance to receive judgment if called upon.

INQUESTS.

SUICIDE THROUGH SUFFERING.—At Marylebone Coroner's Court, Dr. G. Danford Thomas held an inquiry concerning the death of Henry Parsons, aged 64, a blacksmith, lately residing at 6, Harcourt-street, Marylebone-lane. The deceased's son said his father suffered from a painful wasting disease and was very depressed and despondent. He had been in the hospital, and all that could be done to relieve his pain had been done. On Tuesday evening witness found that his father had hanged himself. He believed "he must have lost his head, as he always condemned suicide."—Other evidence showed that on Tuesday evening, during the absence of the deceased's son and daughter, Parsons had suspended himself by the neck by means of a rope attached to the banisters of the stairs. One of the lodgers in the house thus found him and cut him down.—Dr. Morgan, police surgeon, who was at once summoned, deposed that life was extinct on his arrival, and death was due to strangulation.—The coroner remarked that doubtless the deceased had been driven to take his life by the physical suffering he had to endure.—The jury returned a verdict of suicide.

KILLED BY A CART.—Mr. Hicks held an inquest at Guy's Hospital regarding the death of Henry Myers, aged 26, a carman, of Marshall-street, Southwark, who was run over by a vehicle.—Wm. Davis, a journeyman engineer, stated that on June 16th he heard a noise, and saw a cart go past, and the deceased, whom he knew, was hanging on the horse trying to stop it as it was galloping wildly along the thoroughfare. When just past witness's house, the deceased let go his hold and fell down, the wheels passing over his body.—Mr. MacCoulough, house-surgeon, said the man was not dead when brought to the hospital, but his ribs were fractured, and he died on Thursday from shock to the system.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

FATAL FALL OUT OF WINDOW.—Dr. Danford Thomas held an inquiry at the Marylebone Coroner's Court respecting the death of Rachel Thatcher, aged 67, a widow, lately living at 3, Nunhead-terrace, St. John's Wood.—Deceased's son stated that his mother was supported by the St. Mark's Church Congregational Fund. Latey she had been for forgetfulness and wandering in her mind. On Tuesday she was "not in the usual way." On Wednesday witness heard she had fallen out of window.—Joseph Dawson, the landlord, said that he had noticed deceased very bad in her head at times. At 3.30 a.m. on Wednesday witness was surprised by the deceased entering his room. His wife asked her to leave and she went upstairs. Suddenly a window was thrown up and a crash of flower-pots heard. Witness's wife ran upstairs to deceased's room, and found the window open and Mrs. Thatcher gone. Witness subsequently went outdoors, and found the deceased lying on the pavement. She had a terrible wound on the head, and was quite dead. By the Coroner: She had a great fancy for flowers, and was continually gathering at the window.—Police-constable Deering, 481 S, stated that he examined the room after the fall, and found a chair in front of the window, with some flower pots upset, as though deceased was about to hang them on some hooks outside. A shawl hung on the window ledge.—The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

MR. STANLEY AT MANCHESTER.—Mr. Stanley was entertained at lunch at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday. Replying to the toast of his health he said one of the greatest things he had done in Africa had been to reconstitute the old geography. He took credit for having directed Christianizing efforts to Uganda, but said the people of England did not realize the difficulties of missionary work or the requirements of missionary equipment. If there were a steamer on Lake Victoria wonders could be worked. Manchester men had

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.**HOUSE OF LORDS—Monday.**

The Duke of Clarence took the oath and his seat as a peer. He was accompanied by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh, and the ceremony was witnessed by a large number of ladies.

THE ATTENDANCE OF PEERS.
Lord EBBLESDALE called attention to the attendance of peers in their lordships' House, and suggested that a peer's right of voting in one session should depend on his having been present a certain number of times in the preceding session.—A short discussion followed, and their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Monday.

ZANZIBAR.
Sir J. Ferguson, replying to Dr. Cameron, stated that the agreement entered into between this country and France in 1862, by which the two countries agreed not to infringe the independence of Zanzibar, was not affected by the protectorate assumed by Great Britain in its recent arrangement with Germany.

THE LICENSING BILL—CLAUSES WITHDRAWN.
Mr. CANN asked the First Lord of the Treasury if it was the intention of the Government to proceed with the extinction of the licensing clauses of the Local Taxation Bill.—Mr. W. H. SMITH: The Government have given their careful and very anxious consideration to the amendments on the paper to this bill and to the nature of the opposition which has been directed against it. They have arrived at the conclusion that it is practically impossible, in the present state of public business, to pass the bill—(loud and prolonged Opposition cheers)—in its entirety without calling on the House to submit to sacrifices which the Government do not feel themselves justified in proposing. (Opposition laughter and Ministerial cheers.) The licensing proposals of the bill consist of three parts. The first is the appropriation of a certain portion of the new taxation on intoxicating liquors for the purpose of extinguishing licenses; the second part proposes to give to county councils the power to purchase and extinguish licenses; the third suspends the issue of new licenses. The first of these proposals has received the assent of the House both on the second reading and, after much discussion, in committee, so far as England is concerned. (Opposition cries of "Oh, oh!" and Ministerial cheers.) The Government, therefore, propose to proceed with the clauses dealing with the same point so far as Scotland and Ireland are concerned, thus setting aside the sum originally appropriated for the special purpose. So far as the second portion is concerned—viz., the conferring of power on county councils for the purchase of licenses, the Government do not propose to proceed with these clauses, since the great bulk of the amendments are directed, but they will ask the House to insert words, the effect of which will be to allow the funds for the extinction of licenses to accumulate until Parliament shall deal with the question. (Opposition laughter and Ministerial cheers.) A similar amendment, if not in the precise words, was proposed by the right hon. gentleman the member for Bradford (Mr. S. Lefevre). The third part and the licensing portion of the bill is one which, I believe, commands itself to the approval of all sections in this House—(general cheers)—viz., the suspension of any further issue of licenses. The practical result of the change proposed by the Government will be that the money will remain ear-marked for the purpose of the extinction of licenses. (Opposition laughter)—under any general reform of the licensing laws to which Parliament may assent; but that until this takes place the money, instead of being available for the purpose of the extinction of licenses by the county councils, will be allowed to accumulate. The effect of this proposal will be that in sub-section 2 of the clause, which is now under the consideration of the House, we shall ask the House to agree to an amendment after the word "as" in line 9, to insert, "as may be hereafter provided by an Act amending the Licensing Act," and until such Act is passed shall be invested and accumulated as provided by this Act." A similar amendment will be proposed to the Irish clauses, which we hope will be satisfactory to hon. gentlemen below the gangway. Our report shall propose to introduce these words to the second sub-section of the first clause. After some discussion, Mr. W. H. SMITH moved that a select committee be appointed to inquire whether partly-considered bills could not be resubmitted in the next session of the same Parliament at the stage at which they had previously been dropped. After an hour's debate the motion was agreed to.—The debate on Dr. Hunter's amendment for leaving out the sub-section of the Local Taxation Bill providing £40,000 for the superannuation of the Scotch police, was proceeded with. The Government agreed to refer the forthcoming Scotch Police Bill to a select committee. After several hours' discussion the amendment was rejected and progress reported that the Government amendments might be put on the paper. The bill, after a division, was put down for the following day.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Tuesday.

THE SULTANATE OF ZANZIBAR.
Lord SALISBURY, replying to Lord Kimberley, who inquired on behalf of Lord Rosebery, said the protectorate over the Sultanate of Zanzibar meant a protectorate over the territory which was under the Government of the Sultan or under his suzerainty. He would have difficulty in defining the territories, but they included the island and a considerable portion of the mainland.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Tuesday.
THE POLICE BILL.

Mr. W. H. SMITH, replying to Mr. Burdett-Coutts, said the Government felt the great importance of proceeding with the Police Bill, and would lose no time in bringing it forward.

THE LICENSING BILL.

Mr. BALFOUR, in answer to Mr. Healy, said there was some difficulty in dealing with the Irish clauses by the Government Licensing Bill, and it was thought better to proceed by a separate measure.—Mr. HEALY asked the ruling of the Speaker in consequence of the proposed amendment of the Government on the Licensing Bill giving an entirely different meaning to the word "appropriation" from what it was understood to bear at the time the Budget Act was passed.—Mr. GLADSTONE urged that the new proposals of the Government gave not merely a new interpretation to the word, but contravened its well-known meaning.—The SPEAKER said it was a very grave question whether the amendment constituted a sufficient appropriation of the sum raised under the Budget Act. He knew of no precedent for the accumulation now proposed; but that did not prove that the proceeding was unconstitutional, and it was evidently a matter for the House to decide.—Mr. W. H. SMITH thereupon announced that, in order to give the Government time to consider the decision of the Speaker, they would defer proceeding with the bill until Thursday.

WORKING MEN'S DWELLINGS.
The two bills for the Housing of the Working Classes were read a second time, and referred to the Standing Committee on Law.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Wednesday.
DIRECTORS' LIABILITY BILL.

The further consideration of the clauses of this bill was proceeded with. An amendment

by Mr. TOWLER defining the term "expert" was agreed to, but another amendment by the same gentleman defining the expression "misleading statement" was negative by 97 to 37.—Mr. HEALY had an amendment on the paper making the power to deal with fraudulent company promoters retrospective to October 1st, 1888, but the SPEAKER ruled that it must be moved as a new clause.—Mr. HEALY accordingly moved it as a new clause.

After considerable discussion the amendment was rejected by 135 to 55.—On the motion of Mr. WARMINGTON, an amendment was accepted providing that the Act should come into operation on October 1st, 1890.

THE PRESERVATION OF HARES.

The committee stage of the bill providing an effective close-time for hares was proceeded with. The second clause made it penal for a farmer to kill hares during the breeding season.—Mr. EASLEMONT moved that the farmer be left to his own discretion in the matter.—A prolonged discussion was terminated by the closure, and Mr. Easlemont's amendment was rejected by 229 to 130.—The bill had not passed through committee when the debate was suspended.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Thursday.

BILLS ADVANCED.

The Trustees' Appointment Bill, the Foreign Jurisdiction (Consolidated) Bill, and the Factories (Scotland) No. 2 Bill passed their committee stage without amendment.

CHOLEST.

Lord SIDMOUTH asked Her Majesty's Government whether it was the intention to impose a quarantine on vessels arriving at ports in the United Kingdom from Valencia or other Spanish ports believed to be infected with cholera. The latest report from Spain was that out of 180 cases reported 122 deaths had resulted.—Lord JEFFREY replied that there was no intention on the part of the Local Government Board to impose quarantine on vessels arriving at British ports from Spain, but it was intended to carry out the same regulations which were in force in 1855. There was a serious outbreak of cholera in the south of Europe. At that time regulations were passed by the Local Government Board to the following effect.—Whenever a vessel arrived from a foreign country where cholera was raging, a Custom House officer would board the ship, and if there were any cases of cholera or other diseases on board, the medical officer would take every necessary sanitary steps.

ARMY HORSES.

Lord WENLOCK called attention to the present system of buying and registering horses for the Army.—Earl BROWNLAW said 1,427 horses were purchased in 1888, and 1,734 in 1889. The supply of Yeomanry horses had not been satisfactory. He believed that so far as registration was concerned a much larger number of horses could be obtained if they were required.—Their lordships adjourned at 5.42.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Thursday.

LONDON OVERHEAD WIRES BILL.

On the motion for the consideration of this bill, Sir R. LAWRENCE moved that it be considered that day six months. He had hoped that the committee on the bill would have recommended the rights of residents in the metropolis against the undue intrusion of officials; but the bill still conformed upon the county council powers to compulsorily interfere with the rights of private persons, such as he ventured to say had never been authorised by the House, except in very special circumstances. It proposed to give to all time the county council officials power to compulsorily enter premises for the purpose of putting up wires and inspecting wires. He condemned the extraordinary and usurpatorial powers thus conferred.—Mr. HARVEY seconded the rejection of the bill.—Mr. LAWSON said the bill merely sought to further public safety and convenience.—Mr. DIXON-HARTLAND said for two years he had one of the poles on his house, and was paid one guinea a year. His house during that time was never his own; the stair carpets were destroyed by the constant tramp of inspectors; his silver had to be kept under lock and key; the house was almost uninhabitable; and when the pole was removed it cost him £50 to repair the roof. It was unfair that the wire should be fixed on a person's house against his will. (Hear, hear.)—He hoped that the house would throw out the bill.—Mr. BRADLAUGH said that if the bill passed it would mean an entirely new departure in legislation. The objections were not frivolous, but the proposals in the bill were preposterous.—Mr. LASOUCHE, in supporting the bill, said he did so because he was of opinion that all London matters should be handled over to the county council.—Mr. COURNEY would be sorry to think that everything that came before that House was to be referred to the London County Council. The strongest objection to the bill was directed against one clause, and if that clause was struck out there was much left in the bill that would be valuable, and much against which no substantial objection could be urged. It was a reasonable proposition to enable the wires to be looked after and inspected. The house divided, and the numbers were—For considering the bill, 200; against, 203; majority against, 3. The announcement of the numbers was received with loud cheers.

THE GREAT PETITION.

The ponderous petition, five miles in length, in favour of the licensing proposals, was moved into the House before prayers. Three huge rolls of paper, encased in cylinders, quite eight feet in diameter, were trundled into the chamber, and placed on the floor between the front benches and the gangway. The great rolls entirely shut out of view from members on one side of the House those hon. gentlemen who were addressing the House, as he could not be seen. Later, the Speaker on another side of the House, Mr. Childers, gave directions for the immediate removal of the two immense rolls. The attendants rolled them into the outer lobby amid cheers and laughter.—In presenting the petition after private business was done, Mr. WATKINS said: I beg to present to this House a petition signed by 600,000 inhabitants of Great Britain and Ireland praying the House to pass the provisions of the Local Taxation Bill, (laughter and cheering from the Opposition) May be allowed to add that I beg to apologize to you, Mr. Speaker, and to the House for any inconvenience caused to hon. members by the presence and magnitude of that petition.—Sir W. LAWSON: Am I in order in moving that the petition be read by the clerk at the table? (Laughter and cheers.)—The clerk read the petition.—Sir W. LAWSON: That would not be in order. If the

hon. member who presented it had desired it, that could be done.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF BRITISH ART—Mr. TATE'S OFFER.

Mr. GOCHEN, in answer to Messrs. Whitmore and W. Isaacson, said the views of the Government upon Mr. Tate's offer had been communicated to that gentleman in a letter written yesterday, which would, no doubt, be published. If Mr. Tate's most generous offer was not accepted at once, it was not so much owing to want of space in the National Gallery as to the fact that Mr. Tate rather insisted that his pictures should be kept together as a separate collection. Such a proviso was at variance with the general system in vogue at the National Gallery. The Government, however, were extremely grateful for the magnificent offer, and hoped that they might be able to accept it. Discussions were in progress now as to the adaptation of the Eastern and Western Galleries at South Kensington, which were fireproof and well lighted, for the purpose of establishing a gallery for British art. He had been in communication with the trustees of the National Gallery, and Sir F. Leighton and others interested in art, and their plans were considerably advanced at that direction. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Tate attached certain conditions of management to his offer which it might be difficult, if not impossible, to accept; but he (Mr. Gochen) trusted that when he saw the arrangements that were made for the establishment of a gallery for British artists he would be satisfied, and would present his pictures as originally proposed. (Hear, hear.)

AN IRISH POLICE CHORUS.

Mr. DALTON asked whether the police engaged upon eviction duty on the Oliphant estate, Deneham, on the 19th and 20th of June instant, sang in chorus on their march back each evening to their barracks, "Glory, Glory, Hallelujah?" And whether orders would be given to stop such proceedings in future.—Mr. A. J. BALFOUR replied that the air in question was a very respectable one, and he saw no reason for interfering with the action of the police. These songs were not sung in the neighbourhood of the evictions, and why men who had marched along did not have a relaxation of that kind he could not understand.—Mr. T. W. HORNSELL asked whether that chorus was composed by one of the members for the City of Dublin? (A laugh.) Mr. SIXTOW asked whether singing joyous songs on the occasion of an eviction was not a provocation to the public temper.—Mr. A. J. BALFOUR said it would be most improper for the police to sing songs of any kind in the neighbourhood or locality where the eviction took place. But why at a distance from the place it should not be allowed he could not understand.

THE LICENSING QUESTION.

DECISION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Mr. W. H. SMITH, in answer to Mr. SUMMERS, said the Government had given careful consideration to what fell from the Speaker with regard to the proposed amendment to the Local Taxation Bill. He did not presume to question the highest constitutional authority on matters of Parliamentary practice, and they had no alternative but to withdraw provision relating to the fund for the purchase of licences for the bill. Clauses 5, 6, and 7, would also go out of the bill. As to clause 8, he would leave it with the House; as to the granting of new licences, if that was objected to in any extent, the only course would be to withdraw the clause. As to the appropriation of the fund, the Government proposed to deal with it in a new clause, but they remained to consider the subject.

HELGOLAND.

In reply to Mr. HANBURY and Mr. SUMMERS, Mr. W. H. SMITH said the opinions of the military and naval authorities respecting the cession of Helgoland were confidential, and could not be disclosed. The concession could not be made dependent upon a popular vote.—Mr. GLADSTONE asked for a further statement respecting the course of public business.—Mr. W. H. SMITH said he would refrain from entering upon any statement at present; but it must not be assumed that the Fifths Bill would not be proceeded with, for in the course of their powers to compulsorily enter premises for the purpose of putting up wires and inspecting wires. He condemned the extraordinary and usurpatorial powers thus conferred.—Mr. HARVEY seconded the rejection of the bill.—Mr. LAWSON said the bill merely sought to further public safety and convenience.—Mr. DIXON-HARTLAND said for two years he had one of the poles on his house, and was paid one guinea a year. His house during that time was never his own; the stair carpets were destroyed by the constant tramp of inspectors; his silver had to be kept under lock and key; the house was almost uninhabitable; and when the pole was removed it cost him £50 to repair the roof. It was unfair that the wire should be fixed on a person's house against his will. (Hear, hear.)—He hoped that the house would throw out the bill.—Mr. BRADLAUGH said that if the bill passed it would mean an entirely new departure in legislation. The objections were not frivolous, but the proposals in the bill were preposterous.—Mr. LASOUCHE, in supporting the bill, said he did so because he was of opinion that all London matters should be handled over to the county council.—Mr. COURNEY would be sorry to think that everything that came before that House was to be referred to the London County Council. The strongest objection to the bill was directed against one clause, and if that clause was struck out there was much left in the bill that would be valuable, and much against which no substantial objection could be urged. It was a reasonable proposition to enable the wires to be looked after and inspected. The house divided, and the numbers were—For considering the bill, 200; against, 203; majority against, 3. The announcement of the numbers was received with loud cheers.

ALLOTMENTS BILL.

The Allotments Act (1887) Amendment Bill passed through committee, and was read a third time, amid cheers.

THE BARACKS BILL.

The House went into committee on this bill.—Sir GEORGE CAMPBELL moved an amendment, requiring estimates to be laid before Parliament as soon as possible, provided that in framing such estimates regard should be had to the provision of local centres for the combined training of the regular and auxiliary forces, and the removal and improvement of existing barracks and camps, and not to the provision of permanent accommodation for additional forces at great central camps.—Mr. E. STANHOPE defended his proposals, which did not interfere with the present scheme of Army training. It was desirable to have more accommodation for cavalry, so that a regiment could be kept together in one place. The new barracks would be built by contract, and tenders would be called for. He did not think the whole scheme could be completed under seven years.—After some discussion the amendment was negatived without a division, and the bill passed through committee.—After some discussion in committees on the Western Australian Constitution Bill, the House adjourned.

A MISSING HEIR TO £5,000.

In the Probate Division, before Sir James HANNAN, Mr. MIDDLETON applied for leave to presume the death of Frederick BROWN, formerly of York, and whose relations still reside in this country. A reward was offered for his apprehension, but for ten years out all trace was lost of him. A few weeks ago he was traced to Liverpool, he booked from thence to America under the name of Peter Schwartz, and escaped. Afterwards the police in America were communicated with; a description of the person wanted was furnished; and the news has arrived that he was arrested soon after leaving the Liverpool steamer, and a good part of the plunder recovered.

GREAT BANK ROBBERY IN AUSTRIA.

Some time ago the Austrian authorities informed the English police that a bank in that country had been robbed, and that the thief, with the plunder, amounting to about £8,000, had come to this country. A reward was offered for his apprehension, but for ten years out all trace was lost of him. (A. T. SMITH)

MISSING HEIR TO £5,000.

In the course of an interview on Wednesday, which Madame BERNHARDT gave to a representative of the London New York Herald, she said:—"I have not been very well, as you know; but I am not ill. I am tired and somewhat nervous. I wish you would deny the story published yesterday of my having taken an overdose of chloral. It was absurd. I was so nervous after the opening performance that I took some chloral in order to sleep. That was all. I do not see anything remarkable about that."

A SLIGHT ON FRANCE.

Eugene Louis THIERS, writes a Paris correspondent, is an ascetic-looking gentleman of twenty-eight years, who long ago formed the conviction that the best way of obtaining board and lodging for nothing as well as conquering the hearts of fair ladies was to don the soutane and shovel-hat of a priest. For his ecclesiastical vestments he incurred a debt of £5,000, and he also managed to run up a bill at a cafe for wine to the figure of £4. Wearing the soutane without being in clerical orders, obtaining garments without having any means of paying for them, and obtaining wine by false pretences, are all offences against the French law; hence the appearance of the ascetic-looking, but spurious, priest before the Tribunal of the Seine. Parisian juries might have forgiven these vagaries of a recluse, but they could not overlook the slight cast upon their native land contained in a letter written to the German Ambassador by THIERS while in Mazas Prison awaiting his trial. The communication was as follows:—"I wish to become a member of your great and powerful empire. There is not a single beautiful woman in France. The French respect neither religious belief nor private life. I am certain there is not in your country a manager of wild beasts so badly treated as an officious priest in Mazas. I ask you to interfere in my favour in order that I may have back my soutane and my liberty, and I implore you to retire into a convent." (An audience of ladies in France in declaring that there were no beautiful women in France sealed his fate. He was found guilty and sentenced to three months' imprisonment, as well as the forfeiture of his precious soutane.

TO THE EDITOR.
A Person cured of Diseases and Nerves in the Head of 20 years standing by a simple remedy will send a copy of the same to Mr. LEITCH'S FAMILY PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY, 10, Queen Street, Strand, London, W.C.—(Addressee).

NARROW ESCAPE OF SARAH BERNHARDT.

On Tuesday last the Pall Mall Gazette published the following statement:—When the curtain fell on "Joan of Arc" last night at 12.30, Madame Bernhardt returned to the Savoy Hotel, where she is staying, and retired to bed. Unable to sleep, she took an overdose of chloral, about 12 grains, swallowing the contents of a whole bottle. She soon felt the effects of this tremendous dose, and called for assistance. This was about four o'clock this morning. Dr. VINTERS, the physician to the French embassy, was immediately summoned, and administered the necessary remedies. Had aid come a few minutes later, the world would never have seen the great tragedienne again. When Dr. VINTERS pronounced her out of danger.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.

At the North London Police Court, William Stock, 22, a telegraph engineer, of 14, Caroline Place, Clayton, was charged before Mr. Haden Cooper with attempting to murder Miss Ann Capper, by cutting her throat, and further charged with attempting to cut his own throat. The prisoner, who appeared very weak and ill, was allowed to remain in the dock.—Police-inspector McCarthy, who has charge of the case, informed the magistrate that the injured woman was ill to appear to appear.—Dr. Frederick Lacher, house-surgeon at the German Hospital said he had a wound in her throat six inches long, and of considerable depth. It was probable she would recover and be able to attend the court in two or three weeks.—From the evidence it appeared that the parties had lived together as man and wife for the past six months, but the woman desired to put an end to the relationship, and the previous morning went with her father to Tottenham to seek a situation. Stock met them on their return to Stamford Hill Station, about eight o'clock at night, and the prisoner, apparently sorry for his conduct, walked down the hill with Mary Ann Capper, the latter's father and brother following about twenty yards behind. Near the Skinners' Company's Schools the accused was seen to put his arm round the girl's neck, as though attempting reconciliation, but he immediately afterwards turned round and exclaimed, "Oh, father, have I cut my throat?" The prisoner then drew a razor across his own throat and made off, dropping the razor as he ran. The brother of the woman Capper went in pursuit, and

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

The "stovepipe" hat is now 100 years old.

The Prince of Wales will open the new park at Vauxhall on July 7th.

A terrible explosion has occurred at Brooklyn on a tug-boat. Four persons were killed and three injured. One is missing.

The sudden death is announced of Mr. W. H. Stobbs, chief engineer on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway.

A telegram from Melbourne states that Mr. Winter, the well-known cricketer, has become hopelessly insane.

A telegram for Martinique announces that half of the town of Fort de France has been destroyed by fire, and that 5,000 persons are homeless.

Mr. Thomas Cook, the veteran tourist agent, is erecting a block of almshouses and a mission hall for the use of the poor of his native village, Melbourne, in Derbyshire.

Mr. J. Addison, Q.C., M.P., has resigned the recordership of Preston in consequence of the pressure of his professional and Parliamentary duties.

A young man, aged 20, a mason, has committed suicide in Vienna by drowning himself in a barrel of vinegar. He painted his initials and three crosses on the barrel before getting into it.

The competition at the Royal Academy of Music for the Parpaga Rosa gold medal took place on Monday. There were thirty-one candidates, and the prize was awarded to Albin Hooton.

Major-general Black, C.S.I., is mentioned as likely to succeed Sir Edward Bradford as political secretary at the India Office. General Black has had considerable experience of Indian politics.

The Queen of the Belgians, while driving from Spa, was stopped at the frontier by the Belgian Custom House officers, who, despite the indignant protests of Baron Gotthilf, directed her carriage to a severe scrutiny.

Mr. H. S. Foster, of the London School Board and the London County Council, has just received from the French Government, with the permission of the Foreign Office, the diploma of Officer de l'Instruction Publique.

The town of David Gorodok, in the government of Minsk, has been completely destroyed by fire. Eight hundred and sixty houses, 100 shops, a Catholic church, two synagogues, and all the Government buildings were consumed by the flames.

Thomas Johnson, a carman, has been sumamed to Westminster Police Court, by an inspector of police, for carrying on the sides of a van two advertisement boards of dimensions contrary to those approved by the chief commissioner. The boards, it was stated, were each 15ft. by 8ft. The defendant was fined 10s.

Some genuine cases of influenza of an epidemic character having recently occurred in the district of Judenburg, Upper Styria, although the malady has generally died out, the authorities have ordered a searching and strict inquiry into the matter, the results being requested to send in their best as soon as possible.

Hanover County Court on Tuesday a temporary order was made, under a writ of summons, committing Lord Charles Mordaunt Ker to prison for twenty-eight days for non-payment of the sum of fifteen guineas 5s. for saddletry. The plaintiff's solicitor said that his lordship was keeping out of the way to avoid service.

The War Office have decided that the river-side walls of the Tower of London cannot be opened to the public. A memorial on this subject from the Whitechapel district was a short time ago presented, but it is stated that, owing to the numerous military purposes for which the Tower wharf is required, it would be impossible to admit the public to the riverside walk.

At Ashton-under-Lyne Infirmary James Farrow, aged 13, has died from hydrocephalus. On the 28th ult. he was bitten in the hand at Brighouse by a large hound, which afterwards ran onwards to Newton, near Hyde, where it had killed a child and also bit two men. The latter have been under the treatment of M. Pasteur.

At a meeting of shareholders in the Great Northern Railway Company, the bill authorising the conversion of the company's stock on open terms sanctioned by a committee of the House of Commons was approved. In answer to a question, the company's solicitor said that it in no way diminished the security of their preferential stocks.

In the German Reichstag, during the discussion on the vote for East Africa, Baron von Hartmann, the Foreign Secretary, referred to the Anglo-German agreement, and said it was possible that the bill relating to Hollogau would be laid before the House during the present session. He requested the deputies to abstain from any discussion on the matter, and they complied with his request.

Mr. Justice Mathew and a jury on Monday sat in an action for slander brought by Mr. A. Miller, clerk to the vestry of St. George's, Southwark, against Mr. J. G. Tatum, who had been contractor to the vestry for smith's work. The defendant had made accusations against the plaintiff arising out of the money owing to employ him, and the jury gave a verdict for the plaintiff, with £20 damages.

In reply to a correspondent, who recently sent me Mr. Gladstone with his neglect to the East-end of London, the right hon. gentleman writes:—"I am sure there has always been and will be on the part of those who have had a desire to consider the wants of London, I must, however, beg you to remember that I have eighty years upon me, and that I have not visited Scotland or my own excellent constituents there for four years."

The receipts on account of revenue from the 1st of April, 1890, when there was a balance of £5,220,261, to June 21st, 1890, were £1,767,125, against £18,445,555 in the corresponding period of the preceding financial year, which began with a balance of £2,125,125. The net expenditure was £1,767,125, as against £17,674,831 to the end of the previous year. The Treasury balance on June 21st, 1890, amounted to £1,767,125, and at the same date in 1889 to £2,125,125.

John Bowerman was indicted at the Central Criminal Court for fraudulently appropriating £1,000 of the sum of £1,000 which he had given to the defendant the legal point being that the documents, they were not forged.

On Tuesday the marriage was celebrated of Viscount Cantelupe, the elder son of Earl La Warr, with Miss Dorothy Headstone, eldest daughter of Mr. John Postlethwaite, of Walhampton Park, Lympstone. Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) was present at the ceremony. The bride wore a very simple-made dress of rich white Louis XVI. brocade, festooned round the hem with narrow ostrich feather trimming, and the bodice embroidered with pearls.

An application to commit Mr. Arthur Labouchere, who resides near Sheffield, to prison for contempt of court, was on Tuesday before Justices Denman and Charles. The complaint against the defendant, who kept a pack of hounds, was that he set his dogs upon an officer who came to serve him with a writ, but his counsel suggested that the hounds were being fed and thought the writ was

conduct of the captain and crew generally after the accident was commanded.

The Duchess of Fife has now almost recovered.

There were eight cases of suicide last week in the metropolis.

King Humbert's tendency to melancholy is increasing.

There were 2,516 births and 1,337 deaths in London last week.

Different forms of violence caused fifty-four deaths in London last week.

Over 500 ladies in Washington are wearing divided skirts.

The Portsmouth Swimming Club numbers 300 lady members.

Over £23,000 has been received on behalf of the Hospital Sunday Fund.

The King of Abyssinia's new crown has cost £1,000.

Scientists are agreed that the climate of Asia is growing colder.

At the Birmingham Mint 3,900,000 silver coins are being made for use in Hong Kong.

The total population of Western Australia is about equal to that of the town of Oxford.

It is said that Stanley will net by his fifty lectures in the United States the sum of £50,000.

There were in India, at the close of 1889, 53,917 square miles of forest demarcated and reserved by the State.

Sir Edwin Arnold announces from Yekaterinburg that he has sold all rights in his poem, "The Light of the World."

There are 797 daily and weekly German papers published in the United States and Canada.

Laying the duplicate cable between New South Wales and New Zealand will cost about £300,000.

Jews are long-lived people. In Prussia the rate of mortality averages about two-thirds the Christian.

Since 1748, seven "senior wranglers" have attained to bishoprics, six to deaneries, and five to archdeaconries.

St. Saviour's Church, Sheffield, bears this remarkable inscription over its door: "Pray for the sinners who built this church."

The birth of a son of the Prince and Princess Bernadotte was simply announced among the ordinary "births" in a Carlsruhe local paper.

Edward Manning, of New York, describes himself as "champion egg-eater of the world." He can dispose of one hundred eggs inside two minutes.

The expression "of a certain age," applied to elderly ladies, has, according to Piecikowski, been improved upon. They are now spoken of as "has beans."

Bismarck is said to be extremely superstitious, especially as regards mystic numbers. The Thirteenth Club should endeavour to convert him when he visits England.

Napoleon Wilson last winter induced the wife of J. M. Morris to elope from Magnolia. The husband has since been speaking to Wilson through a revolver. Morris very recently met the last bullet, and soon afterwards an undertaker.

American market gardeners have a machine for banking celery, which, to the lay mind, seems a monstrously funny thing to bank. What some of us really want is a machine to compel us to bank our salary, or at least a part of it.

"Shooting the moon" is quite an old institution, but photographing the sun is not often practised. The solar luminary had a rough time of it during the recent eclipse, having to undergo as many as sixteen "sittings."

It has often been pointed out as a curious phenomenon that brandy and water, upon being mixed, show an increase of temperature. Still more curious are the phenomena which result from a too liberal indulgence in the compound.

The natives of Great Britain, a small island in the Bismarck Archipelago, who have only recently renounced cannibalism, keep their female children imprisoned in wicker cages until they marry, which is usually at the age of eleven or twelve.

The present "star" of a café chantant in Frankfort is the Princess Marie Pignatelli, the divorced wife of Count Louis Piper. She always, it is said, wears her family jewels, her ducal coronet in diamonds, and the arms of the Pignatelli princely house.

The Queen on Monday reviewed the troops of the Windsor garrison and the Eton College Volunteers in Windsor Great Park. After Her Majesty's return to the castle the Prince of Wales complimented the troops on their movements.

The attention of the Dominion Government has again been called to the cannibalism existing among the Indians of the northern portion of British Columbia. It is once more alleged that the Indians eat the prisoners they capture from neighbouring tribes. The Government is urged to take vigorous measures to suppress the barbarous custom.

A telegram from Rome states that Princess Marie Leontine Bonaparte, daughter of Prince Charles, brother of Prince Louis, is about to marry a poor Lieutenant of Infantry. Prince Charles opposed the marriage, but his daughter being of age threatened legal proceedings, and the father gave way. The princess possesses a fortune of £3,000,000fr.

William Searle and his wife, lately gardener and cook at The Fishery, near Windsor, have been committed for trial by the Maidenhead magistrates for stealing upwards of £40 worth of furniture and wearing apparel, the property of Sir Beaumont and Lady Florence Dixie. Since the robbery The Fishery has been sold to the Duke of Sutherland.

Prince Bismarck on Monday received a deputation, who presented to him an address bearing the signatures of 30,000 citizens of Berlin. In reply, he said that a good Minister must not regard the frowns of the monarch he serves, but tell him his opinion frankly. His reasons for leaving Berlin were, he said, want of harmony in the views of his colleagues in the Government.

Henry Harding, described as an astrologer, was tried at Birkenhead for fraudulently appropriating £1,000 of the sum of £1,000 which he had given to the defendant the legal point being that the documents, they were not forged.

On Tuesday the marriage was celebrated of Viscount Cantelupe, the elder son of Earl La Warr, with Miss Dorothy Headstone, eldest daughter of Mr. John Postlethwaite, of Walhampton Park, Lympstone. Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) was present at the ceremony. The bride wore a very simple-made dress of rich white Louis XVI. brocade, festooned round the hem with narrow ostrich feather trimming, and the bodice embroidered with pearls.

An application to commit Mr. Arthur Labouchere, who resides near Sheffield, to prison for contempt of court, was on Tuesday before Justices Denman and Charles. The

complaint against the defendant, who kept a pack of hounds, was that he set his dogs upon an officer who came to serve him with a writ, but his counsel suggested that the hounds

were being fed and thought the writ was

good to eat. Their lordships decided to take the case on Monday.

The death attributed last week in London to diseases of the respiratory organs numbered 215.

Since the opening of the South Kensington Museum it has been visited by 23,324,755 persons.

Last week the London Tramways Company carried 1,373,581 passengers, and ran altogether 123,467 miles.

Wilcox, a bridge jumper, who died soon after diving 117 feet from a Cincinnati bridge, had saved twenty-four lives.

The Fairfield Shipbuilding Company, of Glasgow, have intimated that wages will be reduced a fortnight hence.

The reports from the districts in Valencia, where an epidemic supposed to be cholera has broken out, continue to be favourable.

Another French trawler has been brought into Grimsby by her Majesty's ship *Bedwing*, having been caught fishing within the three miles limit of the coast.

Cyrus W. Field wears two watches, a \$2,000.00 one and an ordinary one. The show-piece he carries to please the friend who presents it, the timepiece for utility.

There has been a revival in the diamond-cutting industry at Antwerp, which has suffered so severely of late. Nearly all the workmen are at work again.

The Austrian Minister of Commerce makes known, in a decree published in the *Gazette*, that the tax upon tourist tickets and hotel coupons has been abandoned.

The strawberry crop in East Kent is now being gathered and sent to the markets. It is not such a productive one as it promised to be, but it is a fair average.

It is said that the Baroness Burdett-Coutts has intimated her intention of presenting Mr. Stanley's bride with £10,000 as a wedding gift.

A invitation having been extended to Mr. H. M. Stanley to visit Cardiff and receive the freedom of the borough, a letter was received from the explorer on Thursday accepting the invitation. Owing to his numerous engagements Mr. Stanley is unable to fix a date, promising to send a further communication.

The donations to the Lord Mayor's fund for erecting a memorial in London of the late Field-marshal Lord Strathnairn continue to flow in; but up to the present the response from the City has been very meagre, and an appeal is being addressed to the leading guilds and firms.

A cork rope is one of the latest inventions. It is made of small corks placed end to end, and the whole covered with a braiding of cotton twine; over this is a coarser braiding in heavy strands. According to the inventor an inch thick rope will stand a strain of 1,000lb.

Queen Isabella is very witty when she likes. She was once at a gathering where no fewer than four kings of Spain were announced. These were her son, her husband, Don Carlos, and the ex-King Alfonso, Duke of Savoy.

There are enough of us," said the Queen, "to make a salad."

New York city was the centre of a studied effort to break down census taking, and warrants have been issued for fifty or more unfortunate dupes of bad advisers.

Harris A. Smiler, lieutenant and bugler for the Salvation Army, was convicted of murder in the first degree in New York the other day. Smiler murdered his wife in April last.

Bernard McMahon, a Motherwell man, was found dead at the bottom of a stair which he had led up to the house in which he lived. He had fallen down the stairs and broken his neck.

In the schools connected with the Westminster Diocesan Education Fund there are 36,000 children taught, at an average cost of about 1s. a year per head less than those in the board schools.

A New York publisher is shipping every year 50,000 American school books for the schools of Japan. The English classics are daily read in countries of which Shakespeare and Milton never heard.

Bangor, Maine, has a battalion of thirty young women called the Chiloeithians, who wear uniforms and carry Springfield rifles. They gave an exhibition a few weeks ago before the governor and his staff.

"John Bright has told me," says Mr. Gladstone, "that he would be content to stake upon the Book of Psalms, as it stands, the great question whether there is or is not a divine revelation."

The select committee of the House of Lords appointed to take evidence in connection with the Bill of Peterborough's bill on children's life insurance met on Tuesday, and elected the Bishop of Peterborough as chairman. It was resolved to sit on Tuesdays and Fridays to take evidence, and that the meetings should be open to the public.

The Press Association understands that the departmental committee, appointed to consider the advisability of permitting adhesive stamps to be affixed to cards by the public for transmission through the post on the same terms as a postcard issued by the Government, had decided in favour of allowing the change to be made.

The new Brazilian constitution declares the President alone responsible to the nation, and the Ministers are replaced by Secretaries of State. The Chamber of Deputies is to be elected triennially, and the Senate every nine years. The President, whose term is six years, will be elected by Congress in November.

Charles Rowbottom, assistant market keeper at West Hartlepool, was on Wednesday charged with assaulting a little girl, named Cook, with hair a brick. The girl's skull was fractured over the left eye, and it is feared she will lose the sight of the eye. The defendant was ordered to pay £3, including costs.

At the Birmingham Sessions, Mary Hodgetts, who pleaded guilty to inciting her son to steal goods from a jeweller to whom he was errand-boy, was sentenced by the recorder to five years' penal servitude, she having previously served a similar term for receiving stolen property. The boy was sent to a reformatory.

Paris is again threatened with a scarcity of water. The summer, so far, has not been exceptionally dry, but already it has become necessary to supplement the supply by drawing from the Seine. The Seine water is undoubtedly purer than that of the Thames, but it is not pure enough to drink with impunity, and water-drinkers are advised to abstain from the water being filtered or boiled.

The Queen will hold a Council at Windsor Castle on Monday, when, among other State matters, Mr. Jackson, financial secretary to the Treasury, will be sworn a member of the Privy Council, and the Earl of Jersey will be sworn on appointment to the post of Paymaster-general.

The Russian papers report

TURF, FIELD, AND RIVER.

By LARRY LYNN.

To those interested in the turf the week was happily inaugurated, for was not the testimonial to Lord Durham for his distinguished services in the good work of turf reform presented to him at Ashburnham House—lent for the occasion by Mr. Vyner—by Lord Scarborough, in the presence of a majority of the subscribers. The Durham Fund, as it was called, was originated for the purpose of defraying the heavy legal expenses in which Lord Durham was mired for the cause célèbre in which he was involved. This did more to purify the atmosphere of the turf than thick-headed bigots care to acknowledge. After generations of sportsmen—as well as we of the present time—will recognise the worth of his unsoldish labours which have made an indelible mark in turf story. Lord Durham refused to accept any monetary compensation, and preferred to bear the brunt of the legal expense himself. He had called the tune, and did not shirk paying the piper, and all he would accept was a list of the names of the subscribers, which was of a very varied nature and contained the names of those most exalted in rank as well as those humbler in origin. In all, there were 400 subscribers and the sum realised was £232 16s. 6d. This was devoted to the purchase of an album in which, on leaves of vellum, the names of the subscribers were written. It was bound in morocco, bearing the impress of an earl's coronet and Lord Durham's monogram, and the first page bore a suitable inscription. A balance of £232 16s. 6d. was left, and this Lord Durham preferred to present to the Royal Memorial Fund. A graceful ending this to a graceful tribute.

The great sculling race between the Canadian, O'Connor, and the Australian, Stanbury, which, notwithstanding all the empty vapourings and mountebank victories of Australia's paper sculling champion, Peter Kemp, must for the present be admitted to have been the most important race rowed off late, came off on the Parramatta on Monday last. Stanbury won very easily, but O'Connor claims that he was so palpably beaten by the Australian that he did not think it was too fatiguing and it is a bit tiring I admit, you can pitch your tent in Stockbridge itself, where, if you know your hotel, you will understand what seeking your comfort at an inn implies, and you must be more than mortal if you cavil at the toothsome fried troutlets they serve you for breakfast. If you are one of the favoured elect entertained by the Master of Danebury, well, then, God save you merry gentlemen, let nothing you dismay.

As usual, the meeting began on Tuesday last with the réunion of the Bibury Club. The weather, although showery in London in the forenoon, was bright and summer-like enough in Hampshire, and if small fields turned out in the nine events on the cards—it was not to be wondered at after the heavy racing at Ascot—in fact, after the substantial bill of fare digested on the royal beach the sport at the Bibury Club meeting was as a light French dinner to a man who has gone persistently through a week's heavy feeding off the most substancial solids.

Quality, both in human and equine company, was well represented. Did not the beautiful Peter Flower enter home the easiest of winners from his only opponent, Petard, in the opening race, and force on one once more the conviction that he will win the Derby of next year for popular Lord Durham; and did not four other favourites in Anakin, the uncertain Orwell, Petard, and Peterborough, in his match, all come rolling home? Anakin—concerning whom there are doubts as to his soundness—is a very nice colt, and he fairly smothered Simon Magus in the Home Bred Foal Stakes. To Sir Orwell, the way was paved for him in the Fifth Zetland Stakes by reason of St. Serf—a little sore after Ascot—resting whilst Petard was easily victorious in having no Jessamy or Frier Lubin to meet in the Champagne Stakes. In the 100 Guineas, Plato, with professionals in the saddle, Heartstone II, had little difficulty in beating more fancied ones in Rosy Morn; and the veteran Duke of Richmond carried too many guns for the much better backed Romano in the Scurry.

There were two amateur races, in the first of which the Bibury Stakes, Sir John, with Mr. W. H. Moore up, fairly ran John O'Gaugeon, with his owner, Lord Cholmondeley, in the pigskin, out of it; whilst the second one provoked no little amusement. Therein the competitors were Scotch Earl (Mr. Barclay), Abeyance (Lord Dudley), Scene Shifter (Lord Cholmondeley), The Tyke (Sir C. Hartopp), Blanton (Mr. W. Low), and Shrine (Mr. H. Milner). Scene Shifter cut out the running, but went the wrong side of a post, and all but Scotch Earl followed in his wake. Mr. Barclay was alive to the occasion, and took matters quietly with his mount. Mr. Milner, on Shrine, passed the post first, but was disqualified when Mr. Barclay objected.

Stockbridge proper—there is no improper Stockbridge—followed on Wednesday, and again the weather was propitious. Quality in horseflesh was, however, not so conspicuous by its presence. With Gavotte at absence, the Sixth Zetland Stakes fell an easy prey to Noverre, who, with odds of 7 to 1 and Tommy Looes upon him, never gave Bagimundo a chance of seeing the way he went. Then after Nero had walked over for the Mottisfont Plate, Baldorchar won the Andover Stakes, a race in which a year ago he ran second to Pinson. The Stockbridge Foal Stakes brought out seven youngsters, among them Adieu, of whom Peter Flower made a hash at Ascot, and the filly by Exile II, out of Lady Charlie, who won the British Dominion Two-Year-Old Stakes at Sandown, and the former of this pair, who was in receipt of 5lb. from Alec Taylor's unnamed one won very easily, thus further testifying to the excellence of Peter Flower, and it will require a clinker to take the latter's number down. Mr. Merry, Surefoot's owner, supplied the winner of the Danesbury Plate in a colt by Master Kildare out of Daphne, who made a very successful debut, and was bought by Lord Dudley, not dear, for 250 guineas. Paprus disposed of a good field, among them Guisard, Rotten Row, and The Baron, in the Beaufort Handicap; Jugger, in Amphion's absence, accounted for the Stockbridge Cup; and Cordelier upset odds betted on Eskeveke in the Johnstone Plate.

That what Osmond did was done in the preliminary instead of the final heat, is to be inferred, for there he won the handicap outright, although in slower time, the beaten man, this occasion being his former conqueror, S. E. Williams.

E. Leitch, whose years have not yet reached a score, despite the misapprehension which has all along existed as to his being much older, and whose years of real racing have, so far, only just begun, must have beaten his previous record for half a mile on a safety also. He, like Osmond in his preliminary, lost the heat, but here, unlike Osmond, he lost the final by the merest shade, in 1min. 13 1/2 sec., so it received an undoubted shaking in the race referred to.

From records on the path to records on the road is a somewhat easy stride. The latest alteration in the latter department was made on Wednesday, when F. W. Shorland, of the

North-road and Southgate Cycling Clubs, easily disposed of the late Jim Selby's coaching record between London and Brighton and back (which stood at 7h. 50min.), by doing the double journey from and to the White Horse Cellars, Piccadilly, in 7hrs. 15min., or 31min. faster than what Selby did with his horses and coach.

Of course the merit of the performance lies in the fact that it was done by one man, and, presumably, one machine. P. C. Wilson attempted the feat about a fortnight ago, and headed the coach record on the downward journey by eight minutes. The wind was too much against the collar on the way back, however, and Wilson soon retired. He was one of the pacemakers for Shorland on Wednesday, and will, no doubt, try and beat the latest of all performances so long.

Selby's record had been twice beaten by relays of cyclists, the second occasion being when W. W. Arnold, E. B. Scantlebury, W. A. Scantlebury, and J. Blair, their total time for the 100 miles was 7hrs. 25min. 15sec. What, then, shall be said of Shorland, who did the double journey single-handed, and nevertheless beat the quartet of record riders by six minutes at least.

A suitable day indeed must this identical Wednesday have been for record breaking purposes. Scarcey could Shorland have settled down for a well-earned rest than yet another well-known knight of the wheel, Dr. E. B. Turner, altered, at Paddington, the triclyng record for a single mile! He managed to get the distance in time which dangerously approached that of the ordinaries. The previous best was 2min. 41 1/2 sec., by Gatehouse. Yet on the evening aforesaid Dr. Turner was timed to ride the full 1,760 yards in 2min. 37 3/5 sec.—an improvement of say fifty yards.

HUSBAND AND LODGER.

In the Divorce Division the case of Goodman v. Goodman and Milne was heard.—The petitioner, a wood-turner, of Birmingham, deposed that in 1886 he was living with the respondent at The Cedars, Durham-road, Sparkhill. About two years ago the co-respondent came to lodge in his house, and remained there until last February. On the 30th of January, on a Thursday, he and Milne and the others went to a leave-taking supper at a mutual friend's. The party broke up about one in the morning, and the respondent took up his coat and went downstairs. After that the petitioner remained in the house some time, and then he walked home. On his arrival he knocked several times at the door without receiving an answer. He then approached about being kept waiting outside so early in the morning, and Milne replied that he had not heard the knocking. Petitioner, on entering, locked the door and went to bed. As he thought the respondent was asleep, he did not speak to her. The next morning there was a knock, and the respondent and she had returned him knock at the door, but she did not like to come down, as Mr. Milne might have seen her in her night-dress. The party broke up again, and Milne might have seen her in her night-dress. The respondent took up his coat and went to bed. As he thought the respondent was asleep, he did not speak to her. The next morning there was a knock, and the respondent and she had returned him knock at the door, but she did not like to come down, as Mr. Milne might have seen her in her night-dress. The party broke up again, and Milne might have seen her in her night-dress. The respondent took up his coat and went to bed. As he thought the respondent was asleep, he did not speak to her. The next morning there was a knock, and the respondent and she had returned him knock at the door, but she did not like to come down, as Mr. Milne might have seen her in her night-dress. 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VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

(Communications intended for this column should be delivered at the office not later than 6 p.m. on Wednesdays.)

There are still a large number of artificers employed in putting the camp practically, the work of the council of the N.R.A. is completed, and everything will be in good order a week before the time of the opening of the camp. The double line to the camp has been completed by the London and South Western Railways Company, so that all the passenger trains will run daily direct from Waterloo to Brookwood. The Ludgate Hill and Kensington route will also be finished, and on all these lines especially how far will be charged to volunteers in uniform?

Of course it is essential in the present state of the finances of the N.R.A. to make all the money they can out of it; but in doing so it would be well for them to consider whether, by resorting to the old system of "gate money," they are not creating a new litigation. There is, and has been long established, a right of way over every part of the ground taken by the association is an indisputable fact, and it is already suggested that certain individuals intend to contest the right of the association to exclude or prevent the free enjoyment of such rights. Personally, I sincerely trust the question will not be mooted, for should be the result, whatever it might be, would only be to the further aid to the individuals who have dissociated themselves from the camp at present stand to gain by it, and have no right to bar any one crossing the common during any day of their meeting, the Crown having no power, except by a special Act or order of justices assembled in court, either to close or make any deviation of a right of way, and, in all cases under any Act of Parliament, to close a footway for a limited period every year.

An interesting question cropped up at the recent meeting of the N.R.A., which may give some consideration of officers who are in charge of Volunteer camps. It was whether the gunners at Shoeburyness are, during the time of their encampment there, subject to the terms and conditions of the Mutiny Act. One reason is, and that is, that the existence of the camp no man has ever been dealt with as an offender under any clause of that Act. His case has been referred to such members of the council as may have been in camp at the time, and they have always dealt with him as a deserter. The commandant, who is always a regular, has been consulted with regard to the punishment to be inflicted on offenders, but I am not aware of any court-martial ever having been held on "Volunteers."—Second Old Lady: What?—First Old Lady (looking at priest): How's one by name?—Second Old Lady: Mrs. Hart! How nice!

The French are a jealous nation, and decidedly object to being outdone. For instance, one of our great African explorers was a Baker, and now we appear in consequence, they talk of sending a French expedition into Africa under his command. Little Flower Girl: Only one penny a bunch, first Little Lady: Shall we have a pen'orth?—Second Ditta: I'd prefer a cream tart.—Third Ditta: Ah, so would L.—Little Flower Girl: Well, I'll give you a pen'orth.—First Ditta: Oh!—True NOSTALGIA.—Ulo!—Dobois? You in London?—Oui, mon ami. Je suis arrivé à Paris ce matin, et je retourne en soi par le club-brain!—Is this the first time you've come to London?—Non mon ami, mais c'est la première fois qu'il me fait une heureuse!—INDEFATIGABLE QUOTATIONS.—Jones (after a delightful walk): And now, Miss Brown, let us go and seek some "refreshment for man and beast!"

THE WAY WE SHOULDN'T LIVE BOOK.—(From the "Automatically Conducted.")

It is a man's world, and he must be turned out of automatically constructed bed and deposited on the floor. An picked up and hurried onto an automatic dressing, washing, and shaving chair, after which, dressed by self-adjusting machinery, descended by an automatic toilet, and finally, by an "automatic private breakfast supplier."

"I'm a man," says the Queen, "and I like my breakfast to be automatically prepared for me."—The Queen's breakfast is prepared by an automatic machine, and the Queen's clothes are washed and dried by another.

Dine automatically with a happy appetite, listening to phonographic Italian operas at one of Metropolitan District underground stations. Ten p.m.—Dragged upstairs mechanically by a switch-back lift, and have a bath automatically.

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FRIDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The City of London and Southwark Subway Bill was read a third time.

INDIAN ARMY ORGANISATION.

Lord RILEY called attention to the papers relating to the organisation of the Army in India, and especially to the recommendation of successive Governments of India to abolish the existing arrangements for the Commander-in-Chief of the Madras and Bombay armies. If her Majesty's Government did not give effect to the recommendations of successive Governments their responsibility would rest upon them.—Lord CROSS said he was aware that the matter had occupied the attention of successive Governments of India for some time past. The Government of which Lord Ripon had been a member had not thought it desirable to adopt a change owing to political and other reasons. He did not deny that the subject required attention, and hoped the discussion would attract the attention of military men. In case of a general war the whole of the Indian forces would be placed under the control of the Commander-in-Chief. The subject was under the consideration of the Indian Government, but he deprecated their tampering with the Indian Army unless they saw some prospect of safety.—After some remarks from Lord Kimberley and Lord Northbrook, the Duke of CAMBRIDGE said that many military authorities were opposed to the proposed change. He believed the present Government had introduced many changes which had simplified the military difficulty in India. He strongly urged that great care should be taken before any further alteration was made, and spoke of the difficulty that any one man would have in undertaking the sole military control in India.

FLASHING SIGNALS.

In answer to Lord Sudeley, Lord ELPHINSTONE said the Treasury had decided to give Admiral Colom £2,000 as a reward for his invention of flashing signals.—The Earl of CLANWILLIAM and Viscount SIDMOUTH contended that the amount was utterly inadequate.—Several bills were advanced at a stage, and the House adjourned at 7.5.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BRITISH ART GALLERY.
Mr. QUILTER asked whether the Government would consider the advisability of applying part of the money raised by the increased spirit tax to building for British art in the centre of the metropolis.—Mr. W. H. SMITH said that probably the hon. gentleman did not hear the answer given by Mr. Goschen, which indicated the course the Government desired to pursue in respect to Mr. Tate's most generous offer.—Mr. QUILTER asked whether the First Lord considered South Kensington sufficiently accessible to the North and East of London to make it the site of the gallery.—Mr. W. H. SMITH was under the impression that South Kensington was as accessible as any other available site would be.

HELGOLAND.

Sir J. FERGUSON informed Sir Stafford that the right of fishing in the territorial waters of the Island of Helgoland, which appeared to be of little value, would not be retained in the agreement with Germany; but provision would be made for the other rights enjoyed by British fishermen.

THE ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

In answer to Dr. Clark, Sir JAMES FERGUSON said that the German agreement with Portugal of 1886 defined the limits of their respective influences on the West Coast of Africa, but the boundaries of the German and British spheres in that quarter had not till now been clearly described. Only a strip of territory twenty miles wide would give the German independent access to the waterway of the Zambezi. It was possible that there would be Makalobos within both the German and British spheres. The eastern boundary of German Damaraaland on the 20th parallel of E. long. up to the 18th parallel of S. lat. was undefined; but above that and to the north-west it had not been defined previously. The Government had secured the recognition of British influence by their neighbours in vast regions, and ought not to be jealous of what remains. In reply to Mr. A. Pease, he said: "It will be seen on reference to the despatch addressed to Sir E. Malet on the 12th inst. that her Majesty's Government have not accepted the Hinterland doctrine as advocated by Germany. The claims of Portugal rest on territorial grounds which are not admitted by her Majesty's Government. Arbitrations are still proceeding in regard to Walvis Bay and Damaraaland.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

Sir JAMES FERGUSON, in reply to Mr. A. PEASE, stated that there was no foundation for the report that the English Government intended to cede Dominica to France in exchange for rights over the Newfoundland fisheries.

NEW BILLS.

Mr. HUNTER introduced a bill to establish an insurance and provident fund for the police of Scotland, and a bill to amend the law of divorce in England.

THE PROPOSED NEW PROCEDURE.

Mr. W. H. SMITH moved that the following gentlemen be members of the select committee on the business of the House in relation to the proposed abridged procedure on recently considered bills.—Mr. A. Balfour, Sir Borthwick, Rev. E. Clarke, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Dillon, Mr. Dillwyn, Mr. Penrose Fitzgerald, Mr. Goschen, Mr. Gladstone, Sir W. Harcourt, Dr. Hunter, Lord Hartington, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Labouchere, Colonel Macleod, Mr. John Morley, Sir S. Norells, Mr. T. W. Russell, Mr. Sexton, Mr. J. Talbot and Mr. Whitbread.—Mr. LABOUCHERE said he objected to the present system of nominating committees, because, when the Government received the support of the Liberal Unionists, the Government obtained a considerable majority on a committee. He moved the omission of Mr. T. W. Russell to substitute that of Mr. A. O'Conor.—Mr. W. H. SMITH said the amendment of Mr. Labouchere was a departure from the practice of Parliament for the last ten years. He believed the committee proposed represented accurately the sentiments of the House as now constituted. He deprecated the attempt to make a question of general interest a party question. Sir W. Harcourt thought that Mr. Labouchere should look not only to the rights of the minorities but to those of future majorities. He did not object to the Government having a proportionate majority upon select committees. Great inconvenience was no doubt introduced by the novelty of sectional parties in the House. This novelty was created by the last election, and he hoped the next would sweep it away, and that they would revert to a more English state of things. The present question was not a party one. It involved a great constitutional change, and could not be settled by a party majority ("Hear, hear"). To put three Liberal Unionists on the committee was an indiscretion, and he regretted that Mr. James Leathem was not on the committee.—Mr. DILLYON strongly condemned the presence of three Liberal Unionists on the committee, and charged the Government with attempting to pack the committee with members favourable to the Irish Land Purchase Bill.—On a division, Mr. Labouchere's amendment was rejected by 273 against 163.—The committee was then agreed to.

THE POLICE BILL.

Mr. MAGNUS, in moving the second reading

of the Police Bill, said it gave to every constable throughout the country a pension, not as a matter of favour, but as a legal right, with an appeal to a court of law if it was withheld.—The bill left the question of age open to the local authorities to decide. A higher class of pension would be paid to constables disabled in the execution of their duty, and pensions to widows and children would be allotted on a more liberal scale. The total cost would be serious, but he could not give the ultimate amount. The existing metropolitan scale was adopted in the bill. After fifteen years' service a disabled constable would get half pay, and after twenty-five years' service three-fifths of the pay would be given without medical certificate. The class of twenty-five years' service men was largely increasing, and the improving pay of the men also tended to increase the pensions. Local authorities would have the power to fix the minimum age of pensions by the services rendered. He proposed to give the Government grant to each locality according to the pensions paid, but in the case of new forces that would not be entitled to any grant, he proposed to give to each locality double the amount of the deductions from the pay of the police. This sum would be invested, and would be a fair nucleus for a superannuation fund.—Sir W. HAROURT was strongly in favour of police superannuation, but wanted to know whether the bill had been framed after communication with the commissioner of police and the local authorities in boroughs and counties. He supported the second reading of the bill, and desired to see it passed into law without delay. He deprecated the idea of referring it to a select committee.—Mr. BURDETT-COUTTS regretted that the question of police superannuation had not been settled sooner.—Sir J. GOLDSMID spoke in favour of increased pay along with the pension scale now proposed.—Sir H. SELWYN LISTERSON held that the amount of superannuation should practically be governed by the rate of pay to the different forces.—Mr. PICKERSGILL declared that the scale of pensions proposed was more liberal than that of other classes of public servants. He was in favour of appointing a select committee to consider the subject.—Mr. HOWARD VINCENT supported the second reading of the bill, but feared that if it was referred to a select committee it might be postponed for another year.—Mr. A. JONES declared that the pensions proposed were far too liberal, and he would oppose them on that ground. Mr. S. WORTLEY stated that there was no evidence at the Home Office of a general consent by local authorities of the bill that Sir W. Harcourt had previously introduced, and to invite suggestions from them now might lead to discussions and delay.—Mr. STOREY moved an amendment, declaring that the superannuation of police was a matter for the local authorities, and that the only sound principle on which to carry out a scheme was to pay to the men adequate wages, so as to enable them, by means of existing benefit societies, or of a fund administered by themselves, to make suitable provision for their own future.—Mr. Wharton, Mr. J. Rowlands, Mr. Isaacson, Mr. Causton, Mr. S. Hoare, Mr. Baumann, Sir George Campbell, and others continued the discussion; and on a division, Mr. Storey's amendment was rejected by 256 against 62. The bill was read a second time, and the House adjourned at 12.30.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL RAILWAY SCHEME.

Sir Edward Reed, M.P., who went to Paris on the 21st to arrange with the French engineers and others for advancing the preliminary work of the Channel Tunnel Railway, returned to London on Thursday afternoon. Sir Edward was present on Wednesday night at the reception which M. Flouquet the President of the Chamber of Deputies gave to President Carnot and the French Ministry. The member for Cardigan was cordially received by M. Flouquet, and had conversations with M. Jules Gayot, Minister of Public Works; M. Bourgeois, Minister of Education; M. Spuller, late Minister of Foreign Affairs, and other leading men of France.

ROMANTIC ELOPEMENT FROM PARIS.

A Dover correspondent telegraphs that a romantic elopement has come to light there. The son of a Roumanian banker had been staying with an uncle at Paris, and fell in love with an artist's model. They eloped to England to get married, and, on arrival at Dover, gave the required notice at the registrar's office, the young woman, who was accompanied by her mother, staying at a hotel. Before the notice had been served, however, the uncle of the would-be bridegroom arrived, and attempted to bring his nephew to reason; also lodging an objection to the marriage with the registrar on the ground of the age of the young man. The youthful couple immediately disappeared from Dover, and the uncle sent hundreds of postcards to relatives throughout the country stating the facts.

SINGULAR MAINTENANCE CASE.

At Highgate Petty Sessions, William Price, a solicitor, of 14, Conway-road, Canton, Cardiff, who was brought before the court on Monday on a warrant for neglecting to comply with an order to pay £2 10s. a week for the maintenance of his wife and four children, was again placed in the dock for further examination. The defendant had been remanded to enable him to procure £23 towards the amount in arrears.—Inspector KITTENHAN mentioned that a letter was received by post on Tuesday at the police station for the prisoner, and was at once sent to Holloway Prison, with instructions to have it given to him immediately, as it was believed to contain the money necessary to secure his release. When Price was brought up to the station that morning he stated that he had seen nothing of the letter. A constable was sent for the letter, and was told at the prison that it had been given to a postman to be returned.—The defendant now said that the letter no doubt contained money from his trustee.—Price was put back, being told by Mr. Bodkin that he would now be kept at the station until the evening. He replied that he had been without food all day, and I think I shall drop before I fulfil my purpose.—The conclusion of this letter contained a hope that if her husband married again he would be kind to the children.—The husband was now called, and amid a good deal of crying, he said he had been rather badly off, and perhaps had been rather ill-tempered to his wife. But his wife had been very weak and ill for some time.—In reply to the magistrate, the husband said he would take his wife home again, and look after her. The two young men, Drew and Crossley, were recalled by the magistrate, and, in reply to questions, said the water the accused was in was fit, deep, and she was a few yards out in mid-stream. Crossley brought her to bank, and Drew pulled her ashore.—Mr. Haden Corser said the conduct of the young men was very creditable, but he could do no more than compensate them for their loss of time that day.—Crossley: This is the third person I have taken from the water, but have never got anything.—Mr. Haden Corser: It is a matter on which you should apply to the Royal Humane Society for compensation. The prisoner was discharged.

Sir Philip Magnus has been elected a member of the Senate of the University of London by 990 votes, as against 625 given to Dr. Bristow. This is the largest poll of graduates that has ever taken place at the election of a fellow of London University.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.
A Suggested Coalition.

An important suggestion is made in a leading article in the Times, which, read between the lines, looks something like a balloon d'essai. The article says:—"Whatever the course of events during the present session, everything points to the necessity for contemplating a more or less complete reconstruction of the Government. Present irritation should not blind any one to the fact that the existing machinery has worked upon the whole exceedingly well for the last four years. This Government has a record of legislation to point to which gives it a very high place among successful administrations. Its achievements ought to command the more gratitude when we reflect upon the barren and mischievous controversies to which we should have been condemned had the Unionist alliance broken down. Notwithstanding the muddle of the present session there would be no reason why the Government should not retrieve its position and go on to good work without reconstruction, if only it could rely upon the unimpaired powers of its principal members. But this condition is so far from being fulfilled that some change before long is inevitable."

At the North London Police Court, on Thursday, Thomas Butler, aged 6, who said he did not know where he lived, was charged with having been found sitting on the doorstep of a public-house at Kingsland Gate offering a newspaper for sale at 11 p.m. on Wednesday night.—Mr. Williams said that so far as he was aware there was no particular offence in offering newspapers for sale at eleven o'clock at night, but the parents of the child might be charged with sending him out for that purpose.—Sergeant Bolton said he believed the child lived somewhere near London Fields. He was very tired when taken to the station, and soon went to sleep. So far as the witness knew, no one inquired after him.—Mr. Williams said although the boy had committed no offence he would be sent to the workhouse for a week to see if any one claimed him, and meantime doubtless the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children would take up the case.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

The board resumed the debate on the budget, Sir Richard Temple having moved that it be referred to the Financial Committee to apportion among the different districts of the metropolis the sum of £729,150.

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LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.
THE COST OF REPAIRS.

The board met on Thursday, at the office, Victoria Embankment, the Rev. J. R. Diggle presiding.—Sir Richard Temple, in reply to Mr. Gover, said it was true that the estimate of the expenditure of the Works Committee in respect to day schools for the year 1890-1, as originally prepared, was £149,000. The estimate was afterwards reduced to £129,000 by the committee, and the actual expenditure under the same head from March 26th to May 31st, 1890, was £22,588 at the rate of £15,000 a year. The actual sum expended in repairs to buildings during the year was £41,184, and in alterations and additions to school buildings not chargeable to loan account, £20,450.

DECIMAL SYSTEM.

Professor Gladstone and Sir P. Magnus introduced a deputation from the Decimal Association, who presented a memorial to the board urging that the children should be instructed in decimals.—The question was referred to the School Management Committee.

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